

**Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey
Reconnaissance Survey Final Report
of
Boyd County, Nebraska
prepared for
Nebraska State Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Office**

by

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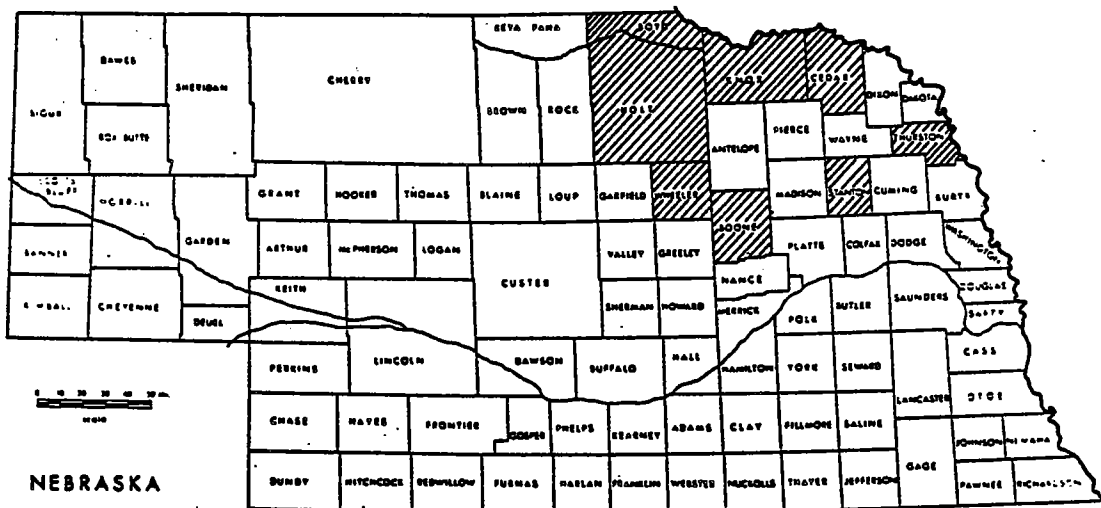
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INTRODUCTION

In 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act was passed by the 89th United States Congress and subsequently signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. With this Act, the Secretary of the Interior was called upon to expand and maintain a national register of historic places and give maximum encouragement to state governments to develop statewide historic preservation programs of their own. The Act recognized that one of the prerequisites for an effective national preservation program was the identification of historic resources across the country through comprehensive statewide surveys. Thus, state historic preservation offices were made responsible under the National Historic Preservation Act for decisions concerning the preservation of historic properties in their states.

The manifestation of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act for Nebraska came in 1967 when state legislation directed the Nebraska State Historical Society to oversee the preservation of historical properties and conduct a comprehensive statewide historic survey. For this, the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NeHBS) was formed and is conducted by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NeSHPO) as a part of the Nebraska State Historical Society. The Nebraska Historic Building Survey is an ongoing statewide study designed to identify and evaluate properties within a selected area to determine whether they may be of historic, architectural, archeological, or cultural significance. The Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office serves as the central repository for the collected information and becomes the focal point for preservation planning decisions.

Starting with a limited survey of 125 sites, the NeHBS has now documented approximately 32,000 properties and completed preliminary fieldwork in over half of Nebraska's 93 counties. The latest effort of the NeSHPO to document historic resources is the completion of the Northeast Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey.



Northeast Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey Area

Save America's Heritage was selected by the NeSHPO and engaged in a contractual agreement to conduct the Northeast Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey. This survey consists of the completion of preliminary fieldwork in eight northeast Nebraska counties. These counties are Boyd, Holt, Wheeler, Boone, Knox, Cedar, Thurston, and Stanton. The survey of these counties was initiated in September of 1987 and was completed in June of 1988. With the completion of the eight-county project, northeast Nebraska is the first region of the state to be completed under the NeSHPO's recently stated five-year plan targeting preliminary statewide coverage for 1991-92.

The primary objective of the survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant in the northeast Nebraska region. The effort to document properties contributing to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture produces information which not only serves as a resource in preservation management, but also expresses a genuine concern for the history of the Great Plains built environment.

In addition to this, there are several other objectives which enhance both the importance of information generated by the survey and the importance of the survey itself. First among these is the concept of establishing the setting of Nebraska's multi-contextual historic architecture. Each historic building survey performed by the NeSHPO generates information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background which future survey information can be evaluated with. Secondly, it was the objective of the historic building survey to identify specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the multi-context setting. Further objectives of the northeast Nebraska survey included the identification of specific building types, the identification of construction methods which related to or were unique to Nebraska's historic built environment, the identification of sites worthy of National Register listing, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement, building technologies, and architectural images.

Preservation Biases

It is Save America's Heritage belief that people, and the places in which they live, are the raw materials of history. A community, its inhabitants and its development over an extended period of time are proper subjects for our contemplation, for it is through such studies that we gain a more sympathetic comprehension of the present.

The public mention of a "historic building survey" often fails to produce a collective image or understanding. A strong social awareness towards preserving our built environment does exist in the rehabilitation of aged urban districts, but the notion of recording historical structures as a preservation activity remains a publicly obscure concept. Fortunately, this obscurity is due to a lack of awareness rather than a lack of genuine concern. Communicating the importance of this activity as a documentation of our Great Plains history cannot be stressed enough.

Furthermore, it is also the opinion of Save America's Heritage that such surveys are a necessary tool in the recording of Great Plains settlement. The demise of Nebraska's rural architecture is directly

linked to the decline of the rural-based population. In the year 1900, 76.3% of Nebraska's population was found in rural towns or on the farms.¹ However, by 1980 the rural-based population has dropped nearly 40 percentage points to the current figure of 37.1% (see Table 1).

Table 1. Total Population.

Nebraska		Selected Years	
Year	Population	Percent of Total	
		Urban	Rural
1900	1,066,300	23.7	76.3
1910	1,192,214	26.1	73.9
1920	1,296,372	31.3	68.7
1930	1,377,963	35.3	64.7
1940	1,315,834	39.1	60.9
1950	1,325,510	46.9	53.1
1960	1,411,921	54.3	45.7
1970	1,485,333	61.5	38.5
1980	1,569,825	62.9	37.1

¹Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Population, 1980.

The affect on the historic built environment has been devastating. The number of houses now exceeds the demand and the older perhaps less appealing buildings are not re-inhabited. The buildings then deteriorate and are either dismantled or collapse. Consequently, there exists an increasing decline in the "pool" of historic building resources. Compounding the demise of these rural resources is the current decline of the agricultural economy. The prospect of farming as a profitable future for the next generations is now less desirable. This, in turn, contributes to the decreasing rural population and re-inhabitation of existing historic buildings. This is exemplified by the fact that 53.4% (62 of 116) of all farmsteads documented by the survey in Boyd County consisted of either abandoned farms or farmhouses.

The enumeration of social changes affecting historic resources is endless. It is clear, however, that the result of these changes coupled with the diminishing affects of time substantiate the need for historic

building surveys. It is through such surveys that we not only record the built settlement of Nebraska, but reach a fuller understanding of our present world.

Numerical Summary of Boyd County Properties

The success of the Boyd County Historic Buildings Survey has been one of quantity if not always quality. The survey was conducted in an extremely thorough manner with every street of each town and nearly every county road covered using reconnaissance survey methods. The numerical results of the survey are staggering. These are:

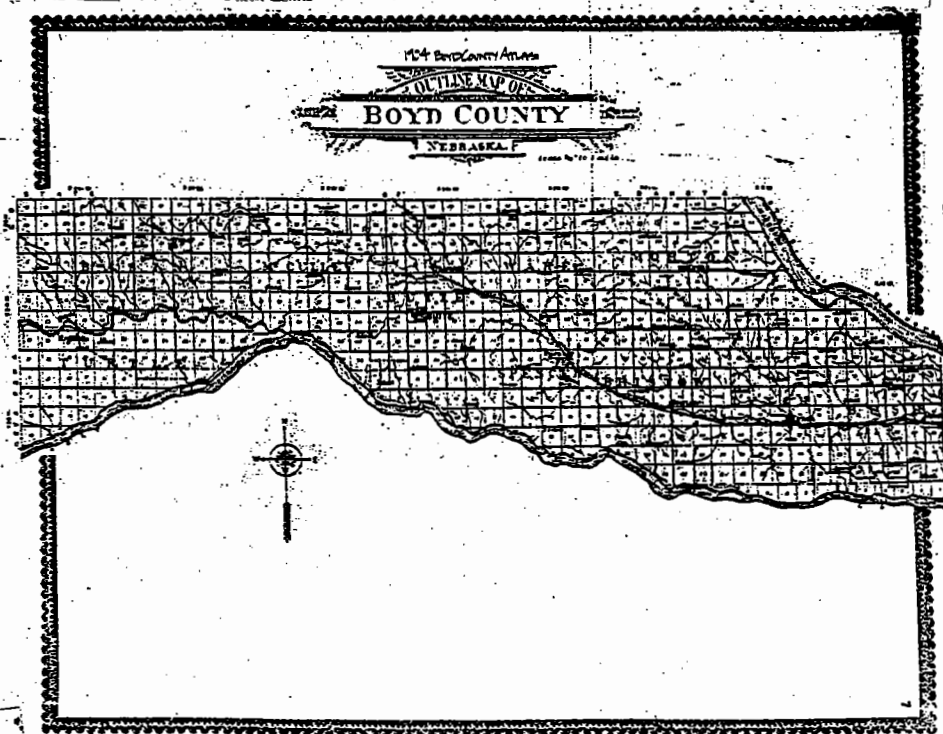
1. A total of 371 individual properties were documented within the county boundaries. This figure represents an increase of 14.2% over the pre-survey estimate of 325 sites.
2. Located on these 371 properties were a contributing total of 716 buildings, 56 structures, 42 objects, and 26 sites.
3. The geographic area covered by the survey included 201 square miles (128,640 acres) including each of the eight extant towns.
4. The identification of 29 properties potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

<u>Boyd County</u>	<u>Total properties</u>	<u>Contributing buildings</u>	<u>Contributing structures</u>	<u>Contributing objects</u>	<u>Contributing sites</u>
BD00: Rural	*153(222)	425	52	42	24
BD01: Anoka	12	11	2	0	0
BD02: Bristow	30	36	1	0	0
BD03: Butte	60	78	1	0	0
BD04: Gross	3	3	0	0	0
BD05: Lynch	36	47	0	0	1
BD06: Monowi	9	9	0	0	0
BD07: Naper	11	14	0	0	1
BD08: Spencer	<u>57</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	371	716	56	42	26

*Note: A total of 69 rural sites were previously identified by NeSHPO staff.

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Physical Description



Boyd County is located in northeastern Nebraska and bounded on the north by the South Dakota border. The eastern boundary is shared with Knox County and the western boundary with Keya Paha County. Holt County lies to the south across the Niobrara River which comprises the boundary between the two counties. The total land area is approximately 548 square miles.

Boyd County is in the high plains section of the Great Plains. The present topography is constituted by four general land forms--a high plain, an intermediate plain, steep hills, and stream valleys. Nearly 90% of the soils in the county are in the uplands. These soils are of two major types--the silty soils formed in loess of windblown origin formed of silt and clay and the clayey soils which were formed in shale. Water and wind erosion are the principal hazards to upland soils.

The Missouri River, the Niobrara River, and the Keya Paha River (a tributary of the Niobrara and Ponca Creek) constitute the major drainage basins in the county. Native stands of elm, ash, burr oak, hackberry, box elder, cottonwood, and willow were found on the lower slopes of bluffs and the bottom lands of all the larger valleys. Prairie grasses constituted the native vegetation of the uplands.

The climate of Boyd County is continental and similar to other regions of north central Nebraska. Summers are hot and winters are long and cold. Mean annual precipitation is approximately 22 inches per year. The lack of sufficient rainfall to support the dryland crops grown in the county is a major concern in some years.

The Original Inhabitants

At the time of first contact with whites, the Ponca Indians were living in the area which is now Boyd County. Culturally, the Ponca are related to the Omahas and may have lived with them at one time. They were a semi-sedentary tribe like many others which lived on the eastern Great Plains and depended on both agriculture and hunting for subsistence. Occupying an important position on the Missouri River, early traders found it advantageous to retain friendly relations with them.

In 1789, Juan Baptiste Munier was reportedly one of the first to encounter the Ponca living at the mouth of the Niobrara River. Lewis and Clark encountered the Ponca and reported the tribe's population as quite small in 1804. It has been documented that several famous persons such as George Catlin and Prince Maximilian of Wied were among the military men, explorers, traders, artists, and ethnographers who visited Ponca villages (Henning, p. 8).

In 1858 the Ponca signed a treaty with the U.S. Government which restricted them to reservation lands, the boundaries of which were altered several times. Being a sedentary population, the Ponca were easy targets for raids by the Sioux and were intermittently harassed. The harassment continued until the Ponca were forcibly removed to Indian territory in Oklahoma in 1877. Ponca land remained in the hands of the Sioux until 1890 when it was opened to settlement by whites.

Early Trails

The presence of the Missouri, Niobrara, and Keya Paha Rivers and their bottom lands provided convenient routes for travelers through what is now Boyd County. A group of Mormons arrived in Ponca territory in the autumn of 1846. They spent the winter there before continuing their westward journey the following spring. The precise location of their camp is not known (Henning, p. 9).

Others followed these river routes at various times including the 1857 explorations by Lt. T. E. Warren who was a topographical engineer and military surveyor (Tubbs, p. 13). The Niobrara Valley was used as a part of the 1865-66 Sawyer Wagon Road (Tubbs, p. 22). The routes were also used by the Gordon Expedition of 1875 which ended in an unsuccessful attempt at colonizing the Black Hills (Tubbs, p. 26).

Early trails were sometimes used by stage lines and as mail routes. One such instance was the Old Fort Randall Trail. It ran between Fort Randall in what is now Boyd County and Fort Niobrara located near Valentine. The trail crossed the Niobrara near the point where the Keya Paha and Niobrara Rivers meet and continued following the Niobrara most of the way west.

Among others who used the river valley trails were a group of Mormons. They arrived in what is now Boyd County in the autumn of 1846 and spent the winter there. In the spring they departed for lands west. The precise location of their camp is not known (Henning, p. 9).

Settlement of Nebraska

The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 opened the territory of what is now Nebraska to settlement by whites. Nebraska was organized as a state in 1867. The general directions of settlement proceeded from the southeast corner of the state to the north along the Missouri River and westward along the Platte Valley. There was little interest, except by trappers and traders, in the area of Boyd County for several reasons. There was no railroad until quite late, the area was bordered by the Sandhills which appeared undesirable, Indian lands occupied a portion of the county, and a

portion of the county was the Fort Randall Military Reservation and not open to settlement until 1893.

The federal government did much to encourage settlement of frontier lands. The Pre-Emption Act of 1841, the original cornerstone of the nation's land policy, was the method by which settlers of territorial Nebraska secured their land.

The Homestead Act of 1862 provided for up to a quarter section of "free" land to heads of families who had paid the \$10 filing fee and resided on or cultivated the land for five consecutive years. The Timber Culture Act, approved in 1873, was supplemental to the Homestead Act. It provided that a homesteader could acquire an additional quarter section by planting 40 acres to trees and caring for them for 10 (later eight) years.

Even with these incentives, northwest Nebraska remained a frontier area. A quarter or even half section of land was often not sufficient to support a family. This was especially true in the drought years of the 1890s when settlement of the area was just getting underway. Cattlemen in the area used the Homestead Act to secure rights to water holes and stream fronts for their large cattle grazing operations and were not interested in seeing the situation change.

In order to encourage settlement in the sparsely populated areas in the northwestern two-thirds of the state, Moses P. Kinkaid introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to amend the Homestead Act. The Kinkaid Act, as it came to be known, increased the size of the homestead to compensate the settler in quantity of land for what it lacked in quality and productiveness. The law went into effect in June of 1904. The nearest U.S. land office for application was in O'Neill in neighboring Holt County.

The Kinkaid Act applied to lands west of the 98th meridian. Under provisions of the Act, the homestead unit was not to exceed 640 acres and irrigable land should not be included. Homesteaders who already occupied lands under previous acts were allowed to acquire contiguous lands up to 640 acre maximum. Final proof to acquire the patent for the additional lands could not be made until five years after passage of the Act or five years after acquiring the additional land, whichever came first. It was

also necessary for the homesteader to place permanent improvements on the claim which were valued at \$1.25 per acre (Reynolds, p. 23).

By 1912 nearly all the lands in the area in which the Kinkaid Act applied were taken, thus closing the story on this piece of experimental land legislation. The success of the Kinkaid Act led to the enactment of the Stock-Raising Homestead Act of 1916 which contained substantially the same provisions and applied to other states in the West.

Boyd County Settlement

Boyd County, one of the last counties in the state to be organized, was formed in stages. It was officially proclaimed August 1, 1891 with Butte as the county seat. However, the present boundaries were not established until 1909.

The first settlements in present-day Boyd County were in the area between the Keya Paha and Niobrara Rivers. It was known as the original Turtle Creek Precinct and was a part of Holt County. While it was settled before the rest of the county, it was the last portion added to create the present-day boundaries. Annexation took place in 1909 to form Basin Precinct.

One area of what is now the county was a part of Dakota Territory which was annexed to Nebraska in 1882. The exact location of the state line between Nebraska and South Dakota was not officially known until the area was surveyed in 1895. Until this survey, residents along the border did not know whether they resided in Nebraska or South Dakota.

A treaty with the Sioux Indians opened what is now a portion of Boyd County for settlement. The treaty was signed in 1889. In 1893 the Fort Randall Military Reservation was opened to settlement.

There was pressure to open the Indian land to white settlement and a treaty was signed between the Sioux and the U.S. Government in 1889. The Indians were reluctant to give up their lands and it is said the Chief refused to sign the treaty. It is reported that he picked up a handful of earth and let it fall through his fingers to the ground, saying his people could not eat dirt (Atlas of Boyd and Keya Paha Counties, p. 74). He was eventually convinced to sign the treaty. As a result, the Indians were

given six months in which to choose a new home and most relocated to Gregory, South Dakota.

Fort Randall, established in 1855-57, was the first permanent military fort on the upper Missouri River. For many years it was the central post in the entire region of western Minnesota and Iowa, northern Nebraska, and south central South Dakota (Kenyon, p. 126).

It remained an important post but by 1884 a considerable number of white settlers were coming in to the area, especially the portion on the east side of the Missouri River. At about this time there was a general movement to abandon military facilities which were no longer considered necessary. Approval for the abandonment of the fort did not come until 1892, and Fort Randall was officially relinquished as a military reservation one year later (Kenyon, pp. 121-124).

On the Nebraska side of the fort, some sections of land were transferred to the state for school purposes and the rest were appraised and disposed of in accordance with the Homestead Act (Kenyon, p. 125). Homesteaders locating in the northern part of the county in the so-called "Three Mile Strip" did not know whether they officially lived in Nebraska or South Dakota until the border was surveyed in 1895 (Snider, p. 4). The Fort Randall buildings were sold at public auction, most to Nebraska farmers who moved them to their farmsteads (Kenyon, p. 126).

The first settlers in the county faced many hardships in the early days. Prairie fires, droughts, and blizzards were among the most serious. New settlers were concerned about the Indians. Their fears concerning the Indians proved groundless although there was some petty thievery.

The most important task facing new settlers was construction of a first home. First houses were usually constructed from materials at hand. Dugouts and sod houses were often the first homes built. Log and native chalk rock were building materials utilized less often. Owners remained in these homes until materials for a "modern" house could be afforded. The first survey of the county was not performed until 1891. This meant that early homesteaders had to guess at the boundaries of their quarter section. In order to delineate their claim, the settlers plowed furrows around the estimated boundaries of their property. These dividing lines

between properties also served as fire breaks against the dreaded prairie fire (Atlas of Boyd and Keya Paha Counties, p. 74).

Boyd County Towns

Railroads were viewed as imperative to the development of an area. Both businessmen and farmers were anxious to have the railroad come through their area. This allowed importation of consumer goods from the wider market of the entire region and the exportation of livestock and grain to a larger market. Boyd County was somewhat unusual in that the railroad was not as instrumental as it was in other counties in the founding of towns or recruitment of settlers. Most of the towns in the county were founded before the railroad came to the area.

In attempting to attract the railroad, Boyd County area suffered from a "Catch 22" situation in that there were few people living in the area hence a smaller potential market for the railroad to serve and without the railroad the area was unlikely to be settled as readily and densely as might have occurred with rail service. The area faced stiff competition with other areas of the state in the wooing of the railroad. The cattle and agricultural production of southern Nebraska and the mineral resources of the Black Hills region diverted interests of the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad in the region. The company did not extend its line from Verdigre to Niobrara and on to Bonesteel, South Dakota until 1902 (Van Hoven, p. 83) (see Figure 1).

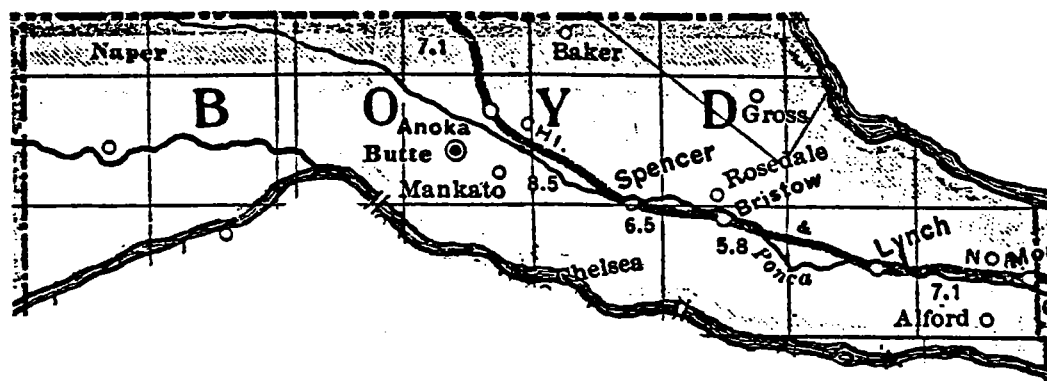


Fig. 1. 1907 railroad locations in Boyd County after the Official Railway Map of Nebraska, 1907.

Spencer was one of the first towns in Boyd County. It was established in 1890 and platted in 1891. "Most of the first buildings were made from rough lumber and hauled from O'Neill and were covered with sod on the outside to make them warmer" (Snider, p. 47). Its survival was ensured when the railroad came through in 1902. The town experienced a boom in the 1920s, and there was much new construction at this time (Kirk, p. 32).

Bristow was another of the early towns established in Boyd County. It was on the first mail route which came from Niobrara to Butte beginning service in 1891. The mail route was discontinued when the railroad came through the county. The townsite was moved nearer the railroad at this time.

Butte has been the county seat since the county was organized in 1891. It was chosen as county seat due to its central location and because it was the largest town in the county at that time. The first few buildings constructed in the town were located a short distance from the present site. The town was moved due to an absence of well water at the original location. Butte almost had a railroad twice but both attempts to build a branch line to the town ended in failure.

The town of Lynch, originally called Lynchberg, was established as an early (1892) post office. It was a prosperous little community with numerous businesses. Its continued success was ensured with the coming of the railroad.

The village of Naper was incorporated about 1892-3. An early editor in the community promoted "Naper, the biggest town of its size in Nebraska" (Snider, p. 42). This positive attitude has allowed this village to remain in existence yet today.

The town of Gross was located near the center of the old Ft. Randall Military Reserve. It was platted in 1893 and served by river traffic. It remained a small trading center and when the railroad did not come through the town the population dwindled.

The village of Monowi, one of the two towns established by the railroad, was founded in 1902. Two serious fires, particularly one in

1912, destroyed a number of the town's buildings, many of which were not rebuilt.

Anoka was organized in 1903 when the railroad was constructed through the area. It served as a shipping point for the western part of the county. The town's first business was the White Horse Saloon. By 1905 there were 31 businesses operating in the community.

A number of post offices and early villages did not survive to the present time. Baker was perhaps the largest of these villages. It was established about 1895 and at one time boasted numerous homes and businesses. The town's downfall came as a result of the railroad bypassing the town. The town lost most of its trade, the post office was discontinued in 1906, and two years later the last store closed. The Swedish Lutheran Church which served the community, however, continued to serve nearby residents until 1965.

Rosedale and Mankato, which was a prosperous village with eight houses and several businesses, did not survive to the present. Two former settlements which included early post offices were Alford and Basin. These villages shared the same fate with Rosedale and Mankato and were abandoned long ago.

Tower is said to have been a busy steamboat town. It was located at Iron Post Landing on the northeast corner of the Military Reserve. The town is now only a memory, the site now a cornfield (Heizer and Henning, p. 11).

Ethnic Groups in Boyd County

The ethnic diversity of the people who settled and made their homes and livelihoods there are an important part of the history of Boyd County. People from many states and over 20 foreign countries came to make their homes there, adding richness to the social fabric of the county.

The information on numbers of foreign-born are taken from Wayne Wheeler's compilations of census data. Since no detailed census analysis was performed, the locations of various ethnic settlements within the county must be inferred primarily from local histories and other secondary sources. Evidence of the various ethnic groups presence is indicated by

the institutions which they founded. Churches, cemeteries, and fraternal organizations are examples of such institutions. In some cases, secondary sources mention specific ethnic groups as having settled in a particular area. In any event, the information contained in the following section is far from complete. A precinct-by-precinct census analysis should be performed to obtain a more precise picture of ethnic settlement.

In 1890, just prior to its becoming a county, the foreign-born population made up 31% of the total county population. As the number of foreign-born settlers decreased and children of foreign-born persons were born in the U.S. the percentages of foreign-born persons in Boyd County decreased. In 1900 foreign-born persons constituted 21% of the total county population. The percentages continued to decrease and by 1910 the percentage of foreign-born had decreased to 16% of the total county population. In general, the largest numbers of foreign-born for each ethnic group peaked in either the 1900 or 1910 census. By the 1920 census the numbers for each ethnic group listed had declined.

In 1890 the largest number of foreign-born persons were German-Russians. A total of 67 persons were born there. The second largest group (45) were from Bohemia. There were 36 persons from Germany, 31 from Sweden, and 14 from English-speaking Canada. No other country of origin listed by Wheeler had more than three individuals listed in that census. The small numbers reflect the late date of settlement and organization of the county.

The German-Russians were the largest of the county's foreign-born groups in both the 1890 and 1900 census years. As stated above, they numbered 67 in 1890 and their numbers had increased to 470 in 1900. They constituted the fourth largest foreign-born group in 1910 with 263 persons reported.

A number of German-Russians settled in the area known as Sunshine Bottoms. Another group reportedly settled around Naper in the western portion of the county. A 1907 article in the Norfolk Daily News reported

Bound for Naper, Nebraska, a prospective Eden after the life in Russia, a dozen Russians were in Norfolk over night. The party has been on the road 6 weeks and could not speak English. They

could, however, converse in German and found kindly treatment and accommodations. After traveling through Russia, Germany and America, the Russian emigrants found a new spirit in the western country, where kindness was a great contrast to what was offered the travelers in the old land.. The Russians were enroute for Naper, where they were going to take up a new life among their friends, who have already settled there. (Snider, p. 43)

The number of German-born persons in Boyd County increased greatly between 1890 and 1900. They numbered 35 and were the third largest foreign-born group in 1890 but 10 years later numbered 371 and were the second largest foreign-born group. By 1910 they were the largest group of foreign-born, numbering 393 persons. Persons with German cultural associations were a very large percentage of the population by 1910. This is especially true when the Germans (393), Germans from Russia (263), and the Austrians (275) who share a close geographical proximity, language, and certain shared cultural traits are considered together.

German Lutherans built an early church in Butte. They also constructed churches in Naper and just southwest of Naper. Germans also built the Congregational and Catholic churches in Naper. German surnames are prevalent on county atlases and have been listed among the businesspersons in practically all of Boyd County's towns.

Bohemians were the second largest foreign-born group in the county in the 1890 census and third largest in the 1900 census. No numbers were recorded by Wheeler for 1910 but by 1920 the number of Bohemian- (Czech-) born persons had dropped substantially indicating immigration to the area did not continue.

Lynch and Spencer and their rural environs were communities with the largest Bohemian populations although a few families lived near each of the county's post offices. The earliest Bohemians established their "squatters" rights on the choicest land in 1890 but it was in 1891 and 1892 when the largest numbers of Bohemians came to Boyd County (Rosicky, p. 273). Their influence can be seen in the institutions they established in these communities. The Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church and Bohemian National Cemetery are examples in Spencer. The Lipany ZCBJ Hall,

Bohemian National Cemetery, Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, and the St. Wenceslaus Catholic Workman Society were established by Bohemians in Lynch (Svoboda, pp. 180-187).

By 1910 there were 287 Swedish-born persons in Boyd County. At this time they were second only to German-born in number. Swedish born persons tended to be later in arrival than other ethnic groups prominent in the county. Smaller numbers of Danes and Norwegians settled with their Swedish-born neighbors in the county.

The villages of Rosedale and Baker were settled by Swedish colonists in the beginning of the 1890s. According to Nelson, these settlers came from Swedish settlements in other parts of Nebraska (p. 292).

Persons from the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland were small (about 1/8 as many) in number compared to the numbers of persons from Russia or Germany. Other ethnic groups represented even smaller proportions of the foreign-born population.

Agriculture

Nebraska is a large state with a variety of soil types and differing climatic conditions which make it necessary for the farmer to adapt farming practices to local conditions. It should also be noted there are few distinct areas where abrupt changes in farming practices are evidenced.

Several authors associated with the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture (Hedges and Elliott; Garey; Williams and Murfield) have described systems of farming in Nebraska to refer to areas with a high degree of uniformity in the type of farming practiced and the economic and environmental conditions of the defined area.

Hedges and Elliott group the majority of Boyd County in the Northeast Intensive Meat Producing Area. Garey separates this area into a separate category due to the less intensive scale of production. Williams and Murfield describe Boyd County as an area of transition from cornbelt-type farming to extensive cropping and ranching. For purposes of this discussion, Boyd County will be referred to as Ponca Livestock and Cash Grain

Area. In this area, crops are grown for their value as both livestock feed and as a cash crop.

The loess soils of the county are able to retain a large amount of water and plant nutrients as well which make them suitable for growing a number of crop types. The cropping system consists of corn, soybeans, alfalfa, plus some wheat and oats. These are grown due to their adaptability to environmental conditions and their appropriateness as livestock feed.

Boyd County was originally covered with luxuriant prairie grasses. Cattle raising was profitable as the range was free. With the arrival of the railroad, more and more settlers came in to the area. As this occurred, ranching was replaced by homesteading farmers who owned 160-acre tracts. Many of the homesteads were taken up during the drought years of the early 1890s. The new settlers were forced to locate on rougher lands of the county. Some of these lands were unsuited to cultivation and the 160-acre tracts were too small for cattle grazing. As a result of these conditions, many farms failed. After 1910, many of those unable to make a go of it farming left the county and those who remained purchased their land.

As settlers came in to northeast Nebraska, they brought with them the same agricultural practices they had known in the Midwest Cornbelt. Corn was the usual first crop put in by settlers (Fite, p. 246). By the end of the 19th century, real advances in scientific farming began to have an impact on production. Crop rotation, seed selection, higher quality livestock through selective breeding, and research into plant and animal diseases were advances in agricultural practice.

Two advances were very important to intensive livestock production. A serum to prevent hog cholera resulted in an increase in production. The other highly significant advance was in the use of alfalfa in rotation with corn to maintain soil fertility. This allowed livestock production to be practiced on a more intensive level (Sweedlum, p. 207).

By the end of the 1930s the livestock and cash grain system of farming was in full flower with northeast Nebraska having more livestock

per section than any other area of the state (Hedges and Elliott, pp. 36-38).

Cattle and hog feeding are the main livestock enterprises. The value of livestock has increased through time. By 1969, Williams and Murfield report over 90% of farms reporting some kind of livestock with receipts from livestock and livestock products accounting for over 80% of average farm income (p. 33).

Data from the Census of Agriculture for the years 1910 (p. 31), 1935 (p. 327), and 1982 (p. 121) reveal the number of farms in Boyd County has dropped substantially from 1,175 in 1910 to 1,114 farms in 1935, to only 442 farms in 1982. The decline in the number of farms in the county indicate reconnaissance survey will reveal a large number of abandoned farmsteads. It is important that these be recorded before they are lost forever.

As the numbers of farms decreased, the average size of individual farms has increased from 248 acres in 1910 to 293 acres in 1935, to a full 640 acres in 1982. These trends hold true for the state as a whole as well. Eastern Nebraska is farmed more intensively than many areas of the state, and this is reflected in the smaller-than-average (state average 746 acres) farm size.

Final Comments

The Boyd County economy is, and has always been, based on agriculture. The agricultural base is characterized by intensive livestock production with more grain grown for feed than cash grain. The towns in the county which serve the rural population have remained relatively small. The county was populated by people from many states and foreign countries who came together to establish a rich social fabric which continues today.

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GENERAL SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

The success of the Boyd County Historic Buildings Survey has been one of quantity if not always quality. The survey was performed with the intention of locating and documenting every qualifying historic building within the county. The mention of this goal appears somewhat ludicrous, but indeed one of the most successful attributes of the survey was the extreme thoroughness with which it was performed. Each street of the eight Boyd County communities and nearly every rural road was surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods. The numbers produced by the survey are indicative of this. A total of 840 contributing buildings, structures, objects, and sites were documented on 371 individual properties. The survey canvassed 128,640 acres (201 square miles) and identified 29 properties potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

For the purpose of organization, a more specific summary of the Boyd County historic properties has been broken into three main parts. These are:

1. The affect of settlement and topography on Boyd County historic properties,
2. A supratypological summary of predominant historic house shapes, and
3. A presentation of 29 individual properties potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

General Summary Part 1:

The Affect of Settlement and Topography on Boyd County Historic Properties

The settlement history of Boyd County has had a definitive impact upon the development of the historic built environment. Boyd County was organized on the relatively late date of August 1, 1891 and even as late as 1900 the population of the county was only a little over 7,000 people. The majority of the early settlers in this county came in the year 1890. It was a slow process of settlement and part of this is attributed to the fact that it was a comparatively isolated county at that time since no

rail lines existed, and the Missouri River on the east and the Sandhills on the south did not make it appear especially accessible or desirable. No official survey of the county was made until about 1891 and until this time, most of the land had been "squatted" upon by the settlers of 1890. Most of the early construction of this time was performed using sod bricks since the resources for other means of construction, such as log or stone, were very limited. According to historical references, the primary distribution of these circa 1890 sod houses were found along the Ponca Creek from Monowi west to Anoka and along the northern edge of the Niobrara River Valley. However, with one exception (BD00-77), none of the sod houses built during the pre-railroad settlement of 1890 to 1902 were found. Their demise can be attributed to both human and environmental processes of destruction.

The railroad, which played such an integral part in the pre-1890 settlement of eastern Nebraska, did not reach Boyd County until 1902. At this time, the only rail line put through the county was the Chicago and Northwestern which paralleled the Ponca Creek from east to west through the towns of Monowi, Lynch, Bristow, Spencer, and Anoka. With the coming of the railroad in 1902, the increased availability of dimensional lumber and other consumer supplies brought about a new era in construction demand and techniques. Now, like most of the previously settled areas of Nebraska, both the public and private buildings which sheltered human activity were constructed of framed dimensional lumber. The popularity of frame construction is no surprise for it is highly typical of rural and community settlement throughout Nebraska. Illustrating the popularity of frame construction is the fact that 98% (251) of the 256 houses recorded by the survey were built using dimensional lumber. Meanwhile, brick (.8%), concrete block (.8%), and sod (.4%) were used on only five of the 256 houses documented by the survey.

Also influencing the construction of buildings during the early 1900s was the topographical make-up of Boyd County. The greatest result of this is seen in the distribution and micro-orientation of historic farmsteads. The shape of the county itself is quite long and narrow. It runs for a length of 48 miles in the east-west direction, yet averages a north-south

width of only 11 miles. This would not be of such influence were it not for the fact that within this short width were found three major bodies of flowing water. The northeastern boundary of the county is formed by the Missouri River while the entire southern boundary is defined by the Niobrara River. Then, found running through the center of the county is the Ponca Creek which flows in a general eastward direction eventually draining into the Missouri River. In addition, there are numerous smaller creeks which all flow into one of the three major streams. What these bodies of water have created is a series of compacted valleys and bluffs which rise and fall in a generally parallel fashion (see Figure 2).

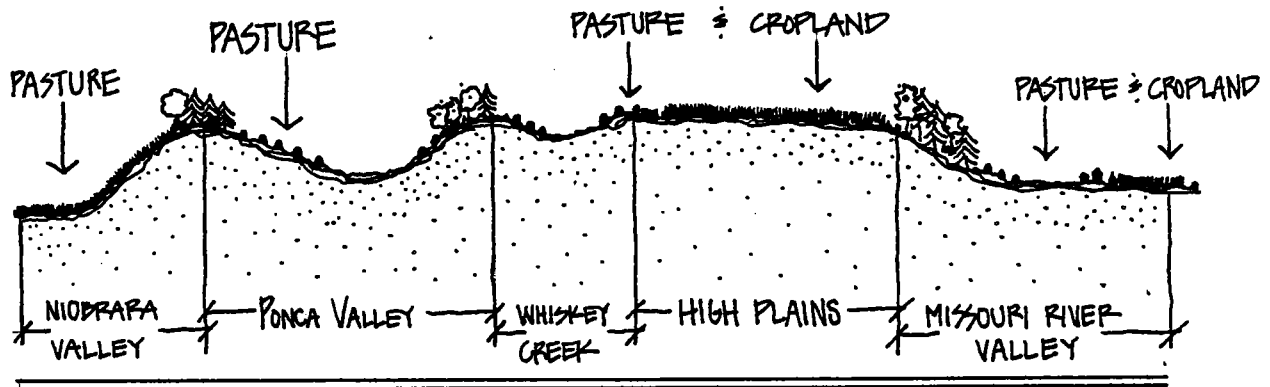


Fig. 2. Topographical simulation of Boyd County.

Consequently, the county lacks a large north-south stretch of open, flat terrain most suitable for the production of crops and livestock. Instead, the terrain consists of wind-roughened high plains and water-trenched valleys. Prior to the survey, it was anticipated that the distributional location of historic farmsteads would perhaps be greatest within or adjacent to the river valleys. However, the post-survey analysis shows a lack of historic properties within these areas. A large number of farmsteads do appear on historic atlases of Boyd County but the

majority of them did not qualify for documentation for two primary reasons. These were: 1) the alteration of historic characteristics (i.e., lack of integrity), and 2) the destruction of historic properties by natural and human causes. Instead, the predominant location of surveyed farmsteads is found in the rolling and high plains areas separating the river valleys (see Figure 3).

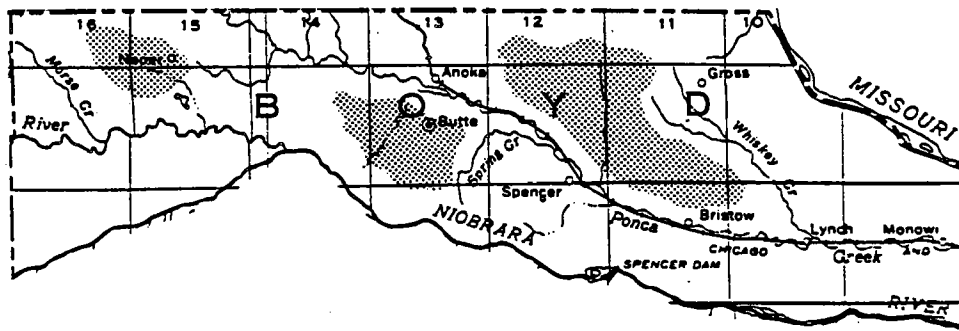


Fig. 3. Predominant distribution of surveyed farmsteads.

General Summary Part 2:

A Supratype Summary of Boyd County House Types

It is no surprise that domestic architecture is the most frequently recorded resource in reconnaissance-level surveys. The Boyd County survey was no exception producing a total of 256 residential resources. This total represents 31% of the 840 contributing buildings and structures within the study area. The preservation of this building type can be attributed to the continuing social need for shelter and the predominant location of residences in towns where the opportunity for occupancy is greater. The recording of residential buildings in the Boyd County survey included not only occupied resources, but abandoned as well. In addition,

all houses that were surveyed as part of a church site or farmstead were included in the aforementioned totals.

In consideration of the large abundance of these resources and in an attempt to avoid "stylistic" designations, the method of Core Supratype Analysis (as developed by the Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee, D. Murphy: 1985) has been implemented. The supratype analysis eliminates the subjective labeling of domestic buildings according to "style" and imposes instead, an objective description based on the primary external mass of the house. To best define the components of this method, an excerpt from the South Bottoms Historic District National Register Nomination (D. Murphy: 1987, 1-4) is included below.

The supratype is a categorization based exclusively on the external massing of houses, similar to that first developed by Kniffen (1936) under the ruberick of "type." The term "supratype" is applied here to distinguish it from the more current methods of type analysis which are based on form, that is, on external massing and internal space, such as that developed by Glassie (1975).

Core supratypes are defined by combinations of five massing elements as applied to the core structure of houses. Core structure is defined as the predominant mass element which cannot be further subdivided (Figure 4). In general, core refers to that portion of a house which is exclusive of wings and porches. The mass elements which compose the core include its shape, relative size, wall height, roof type, and its orientation on the site.

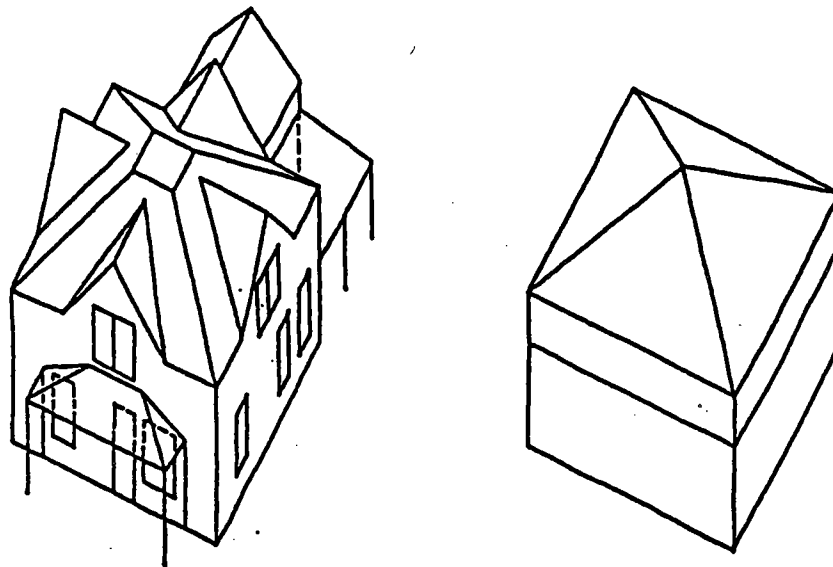


Fig. 4. The core structure derived from the house (after Murphy).

Shape designations for core structures are geometric, based on the ground-level outline of the core. Designations include square (S), rectangular (R), tee-shaped (T), ell-shaped (L), cross-shaped (X), U-shaped (U), polygonal (P), H-shaped (H), courtyard (C), irregular (I), and circular (O).

The horizontal size of the core is related to a need to distinguish large houses from small ones. Size, in the supratypal method, refers to horizontal dimension and is applied only to the narrowest dimension of the core, or to its width. While actual dimensions are recorded, houses are sorted based upon "units" of measurement which approximate the number of rooms a given width normally could contain (e.g., one, one with hall, two rooms, etc.). Units of width in the South Bottoms Historic District are defined as 0.5 (less than 14 ft.), 1.0 (14-19 ft.), 1.5 (20-29 ft.), 2.0 (30-39 ft.), and 2.5 (40 ft. or greater).

The second measurement of size involves the height of the core. We designate this dimension in terms of stories, even though it is based exclusively on the height of the external wall, not on the amount of usable internal space. The measurement is based on the facade wall, the top of which is expressed

by the eave line (Figure 5). Thus attics, the space beneath a sloping roof, are not considered in determinations of height.

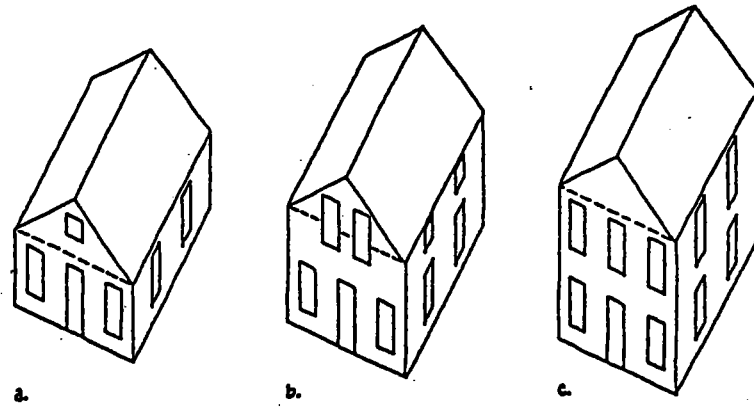


Fig. 5. Wall height guidelines illustrated, note the eave line: a) one story, b) one-and-one-half story, c) two story (after Murphy).

The fourth massing element is roof type. These are so well known that they need little explanation. The supratypal method utilizes only four generic types for simplicity, subsuming under these all the variants (Figure 6). The four types include flat (F), shed (S), hipped (H, including pyramidal and mansard), and gabled (G, including gambrel and gerkinhead).

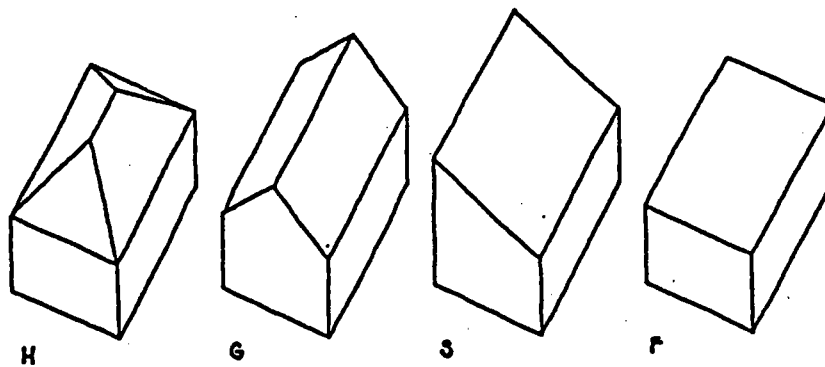


Fig. 6. Generic roof types: H: hipped; G: gable; S: shed; F: flat (after Murphy).

The last aspect of mass used in describing core supratypes involves the orientation of the core on the site, relative to its facade. Facade is defined as that wall which is the architectural front of the house, facing the road or the street, which is usually but not always more highly decorated. Facades also usually but not always incorporate the main entrance. Orientation is expressed in latitudinal (La), longitudinal (Lo), and non-applicable (Na) terms. There are several core shapes for which orientation is not applicable. Since only two shapes, the square (S) and the rectangular (R), are statistically significant in South Bottoms, orientation will be discussed only for those two here.

For rectangular shapes, if the narrow (gable) end faces the street, the axis of its roof is perpendicular to the street. Its orientation is then termed longitudinal (Lo). If the eave side faces the street, its roof ridge runs parallel to the street and its orientation is described as latitudinal (La). Orientation is always applicable for rectangular cores.

For square shapes (S), where both the front and side dimensions are equal, we would normally consider orientation to be non-applicable (Na). This is true for squares with hipped or pyramidal roofs. However, if the square core is sheltered by a gable roof, the ridge provides an illusion of orientation as though it were rectangular in shape. Therefore, square shapes with gable roofs have orientation recorded in the same fashion as that for rectangular cores.

In summary, core supratypes are external massing categorizations applied to the core structure of houses. Core structure is the predominant mass element which cannot be further subdivided (that portion of the house exclusive of subordinate wings and porches). Five massing aspects of the core are used to derive the supratype--its shape, relative size, height, roof type, and orientation. Particular combinations of these aspects

are designated numerically (S.#). (D. Murphy: South Bottoms Historic District National Register Nomination, 1987, 1-4).

Boyd County House Types

The use of the Core Supratype analysis in the reconnaissance-level survey proved beneficial in that it created an objective process of interpretation for the recording of historic residences. The residential properties documented in the Boyd County survey are represented by 70 different supratypes. A numerical designation has been assigned to each of these 70 types (e.g., S.1, S.2, S.3, etc.). A master list of the 70 individual types is included in this report as Appendix 2.

While 70 various supratypes may seem like a varied lot for 256 total resources, a somewhat more narrow group actually represents the majority of the documented properties. In fact, 19 supratype categories account for 66% of all recorded sites. Furthermore, roughly one-third (32.4%) of all Boyd County houses fit into one of only six supratype categories. The supratype recording of historic houses has produced a large volume of data which can be analyzed in an infinite number of ways. However, in an attempt to present a concise and useful summary of the supratype data, Save America's Heritage has focused on the answers to two basic questions. These are:

1. What were the numerically significant supratypes of the entire county?
2. What were the numerically significant supratypes of town locations versus those of rural locations?

To answer these questions, a numerical analysis of the 70 supratypes was performed to derive a minimum level of significance. With a survey total of 256 houses, this minimum level was established at 5% necessitating a representation of 13 or more houses. Of the 70 supratypes generated by the Boyd County survey, four individual types exceed the 5% level and are summarized in the following discussion.

Supratype 25



Supratype No. 25; R, 1.5u, 1.0s, G, Lo. Among the 70 supratypes present in Boyd County, Supratype No. 25 was the most frequently recorded house form representing 7.0% of the 256 surveyed houses. The essential characteristics of this type consist of a rectangular-shaped core with the narrowest dimension ranging from 20 to 29 feet, a height of one story, and a gable roof running in a longitudinal orientation. This house type appears to have been started in the early settlement years of the 1890s and was carried into the 1920s where it was more commonly adorned with "craftsman" decorative motifs. The strong representation of this house type is due mostly to its predominant use in town locations. In fact, this type appeared in 10% of the 143 houses recorded in the eight Boyd County towns and was only documented in 3.5% of the rural properties.

Supratype 22



Supratype No. 22; R, 1.0u, 1.5s, G, Lo. Supratype 22 was the second most frequently recorded house type in Boyd County (6.6%), and differs only slightly from the aforementioned S.25. Both the S.22 and S.25 belong to the R, G, Lo family of house types which, in combination with nine other supratypes, constitute 31% of the houses recorded in Boyd County. The differences between these two types is simply a matter of width and height. While both consist of a rectangular core, Supratype 22 has a slightly more narrow gable-ended dimension of 14 to 19 feet and a slightly taller height of one and one-half stories. This gives the core of the S.22 a more narrow and vertical proportion than its more frequently recorded cousin. In addition, Supratype 22 differs slightly in that it was found more frequently in rural settings (8.8%) than it was among town locations (4.9%).

Supratype 12



Supratype No. 12; R, .5u, 1.0s, G, La. Supratype 12 was the third most numerically significant house type (5.9%) among the 70 types generated by the Boyd County survey. The essential characteristics of the S.12 are a one-story rectangular core placed in latitudinal orientation with the side gable-end measuring less than 14 feet. This narrow dimension and relatively short height make Supratype 12 the smallest of the four numerically significant house types discussed in this summary. These houses were found mostly in town locations (7.7%) rather than rural locations (3.5%) and appear to be one of the earliest forms of shelter built by the original settlers of 1890 through 1901. With the development of the railroad in 1902, the difficulties of transporting lumber were minimized and subsequently produced a shift to larger, more accommodating house forms.

Supratype 66



Supratype No. 66; T, 1.0u, 1.5s, G, La. The fourth and final house type surpassing the 5% limit of significance is Supratype 66. This type was found in 5.1% of all surveyed houses in the county but is more significantly represented as the most commonly built form among rural farmhouses (10.6%). This type is defined by a T-shaped ground-level outline with equal height perpendicular wings one and one-half stories tall. The latitudinal orientation of the core obstructs the view of the rear wing and gives the appearance of a rectangle with an attached rear wing. In the case of Supratype 66, the narrowest dimension of any gable-end ranged in size from 14 to 19 feet.

General Summary Part 3

Preliminary Inventory and Topical Listing of Boyd County Historic Properties

Two primary reasons exist for the evaluation of the resources documented by the Boyd County survey. The first is the identification of properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and the second is the designation of those properties to be preserved by local planning processes. In response to these objectives, Save America's Heritage has developed two reference lists. The first is a Preliminary Inventory of the 29 properties within Boyd County that

exhibited the greatest potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. These properties are presented using photographic images and include historic names (if known), Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey site numbers, locational references, and relationships to potential Historic Contexts. The second reference list is a Topical Listing that, in addition to the site numbers of the 29 most eligible properties, includes the site numbers of 35 other historic resources judged as contributing to the historic character of the county but are of secondary priority with respect to listing. The Topical Listing, therefore, is primarily developed for use in preservation planning decisions and as a guide to those sites in Boyd County which may yield additional information upon further research. Both lists are presented topically in an order consistent with the NeSHPO document "Historic and Prehistoric Contexts in Nebraska: A Topical Listing."

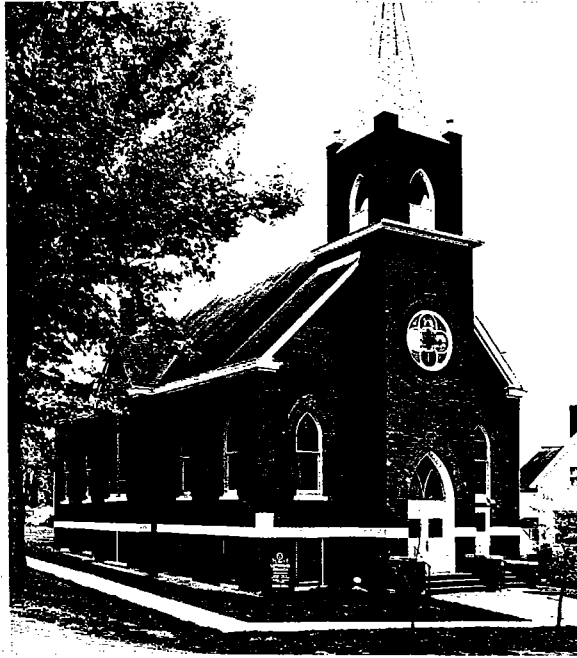
RELIGION

BD02-18: Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1920

Potential Historic Context(s): Religion, Ethnic Groups

Location: S.E.C. Pleasant St. and Park St., Bristow, Boyd County

Significance: One of two significant church buildings exemplifying the early 20th century development of religion in Boyd County.



BD05-13: Lynch Presbyterian Church, 1906

Potential Historic Context(s): Religion - Presbyterian

Location: N.E.C. Hoffman St. and Sixth St., Lynch, Boyd County

Significance: Significant representative of religious architecture and stylistic use of "craftsman" decorative motifs.



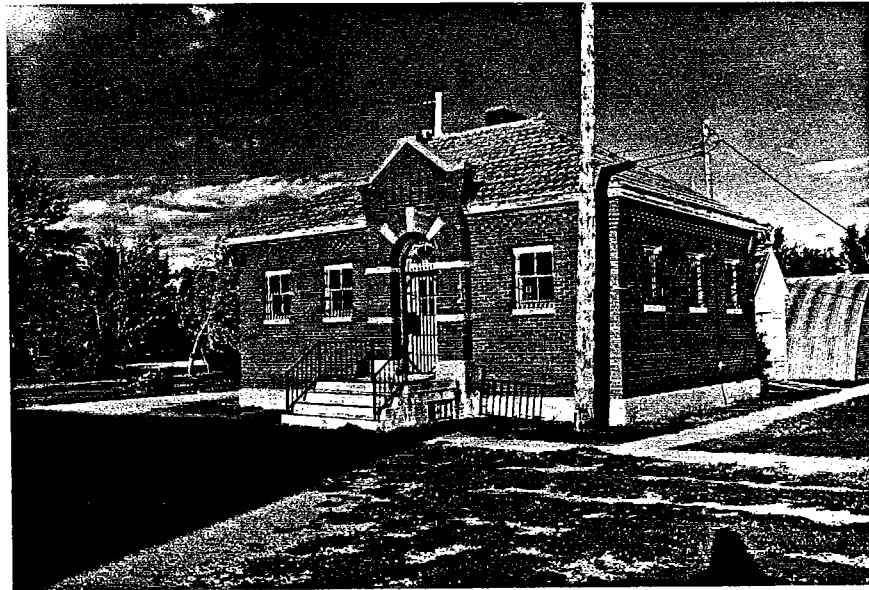
LEGAL SYSTEM

BD03-28: Boyd County Jail Building, 1915

Potential Historic Context(s): Legal System - County

Location: Courthouse Grounds, Butte, Boyd County

Significance: Significant for association to governmental regulation and for use of tudor-style motifs.



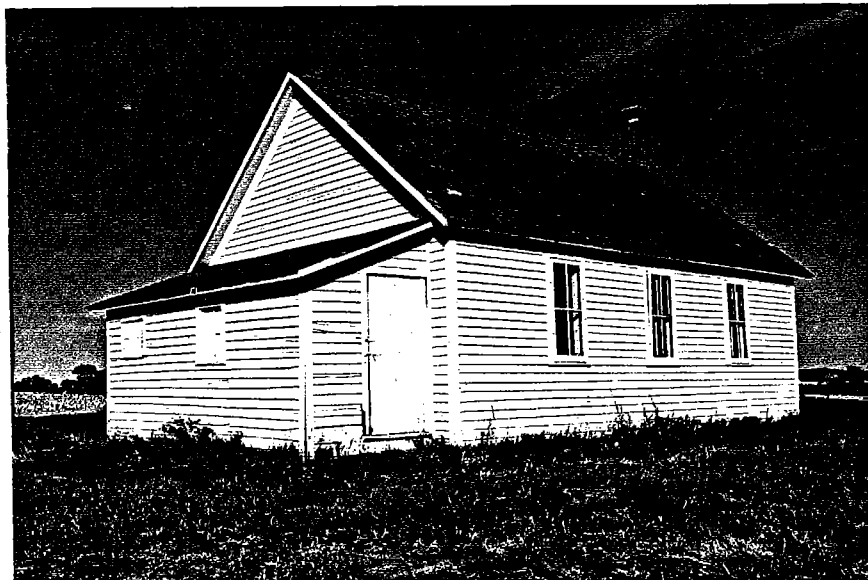
EDUCATION

BD00-167: Abandoned Schoolhouse, District No. 77, 1902

Potential Historic Context(s): Education - Schooling, Ethnic

Location: Rural Boyd County, NW 1/4 Sec. 8, T.34 N., R.11 W.

Significance: Significant representative of rural education organized in 1900 by German-Russian immigrants.



DIVERSION

BD00-68: White Horse Ranch, 1938-1963

Potential Historic Context(s): Entertainment, Livestock Breeding

Location: Rural Boyd County, NE 1/4, Sec. 34, T.34 N., R.15 W.

Significance: Home of dominant White American Albino horse breed developed by owner Cal Thompson. Ranch built on home of circa 1908 trading post using extant buildings.



HEALTH CARE

BD05-36: Sacred Heart Hospital, 1920

Potential Historic Context(s): Health Care, Religion - Roman Catholic

Location: Lynch, Boyd County

Significance: Originally constructed in 1920 as the Lynch Hospital, later staffed (1924) by missionary Benedictine Sisters from Tutzing, Bavaria providing health care to Boyd County citizens.



AGRICULTURE

BD00-77: Farmstead, ca. 1891

Potential Historic Context(s): Agriculture, Settlement Systems

Location: Rural Boyd County, NW 1/4, Sec. 31, T.35 N., R.15 W.

Significance: Farmstead containing deteriorated sod building. Significant for potential to yield further information upon intensive survey.



BD00-142: Martin Langan Farmstead, 1891 and 1902

Potential Historic Context(s): Agriculture, Settlement Systems

Location: Rural Boyd County, NW 1/4, Sec. 19, T.33 N., R.11 W.

Significance: Farmstead of Martin Langan, one of first Boyd County settlers and partner in first Niobrara River ferry of 1881.



BD00-175: Benjamin G. Gross Farmstead, 1892

Potential Historic Context(s): Agriculture, Settlement Systems

Location: Rural Gross Environs, SW 1/4, Sec. 2, T.34 N., R.11 W.

Significance: Farmstead of Ben Gross, prominent townsman and founder of village of Gross, one of largest early 20th century Boyd County towns.



BD00-209: Martin Johnson Farmstead (abandoned), ca. 1892

Potential Historic Context(s): Agriculture, Settlement Systems

Location: Rural Monowi Environs, NW 1/4, Sec. 24, T.33 N., R.9 W.

Significance: Exemplary of original county rural settlement with collection of circa 1895 agricultural and domestic buildings.



BD00-219: Bill Short Farmstead, ca. 1892

Potential Historic Context(s): Agriculture, Settlement Systems

Location: Niobrara River Valley, SE 1/4, Sec. 13, T.33 N., R.13 W.

Significance: Circa 1890s hay-producing ranch with 16-sided frame barn housing cattle, mules, 16 teams of horses, and storage for several tons of hay.



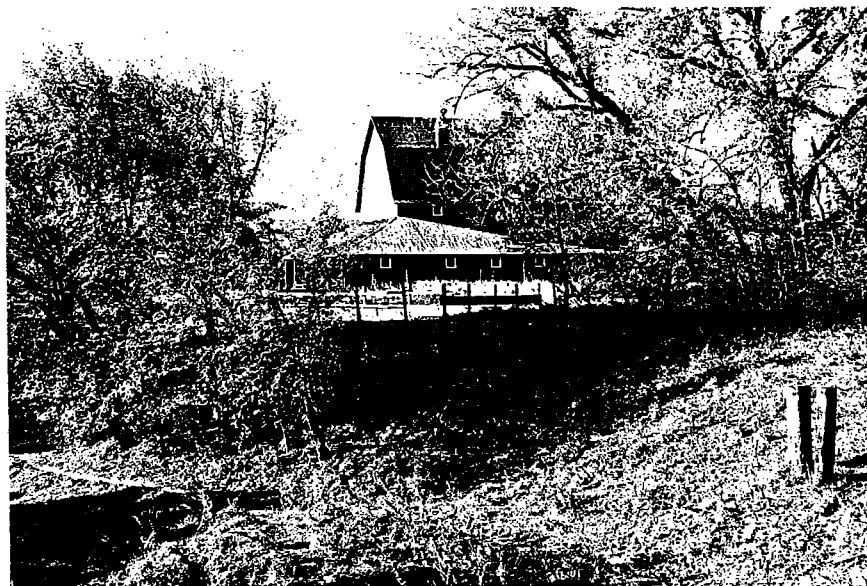
NORTHEAST NEBRASKA INTENSIVE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

BD00-122: Farmstead, ca. 1900 and 1920

Potential Historic Context(s): Northeastern Intensive Livestock Production

Location: Rural Boyd County, SE 1/4, Sec. 18, T.34 N., R.12 W.

Significance: Collection of circa 1900 and 1920 farm buildings indicative of Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production.



COMMERCE

BD01-1: Anoka Grain Company Elevator, 1903

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Grain Elevators

Location: Warehouse Lot No. 7, Anoka, Boyd County

Significance: Constructed in 1903 by Nelson Updike in response to the opening of the C&NW Railroad and boom in production of wheat crops.



BD01-2: Anoka Grain Elevator and Office, 1903

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Grain Elevators

Location: Warehouse Lot No. 14, Anoka, Boyd County

Significance: Excellent retention of integrity in 1903 elevator built by Nye Schneider as a result of C&NW Railroad opening and increased wheat production.

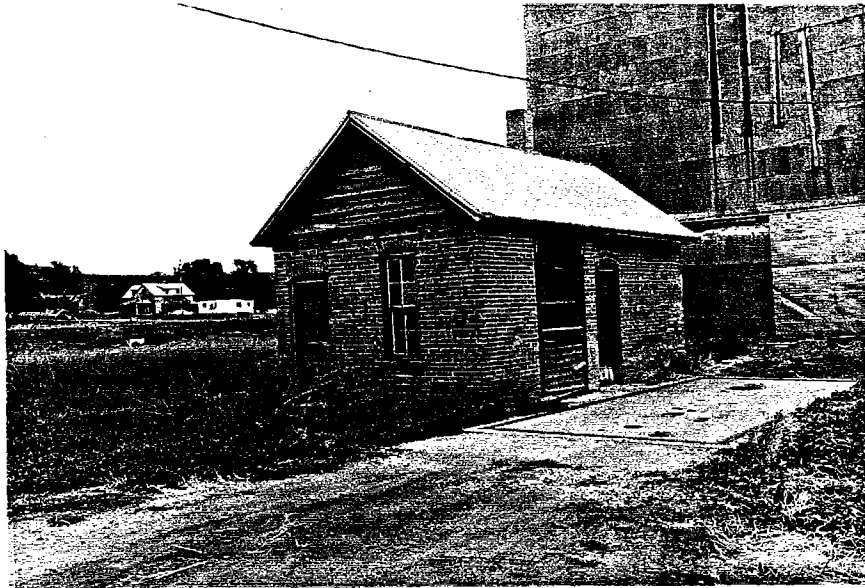


BD06-2: Monowi Elevator Office, 1902

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Grain Elevators

Location: Station Grounds Lot No. 12, Monowi, Boyd County

Significance: Represents initial Boyd County commodities exchange system resulting from the opening of the C&NW Railroad through Ponca Creek Valley.

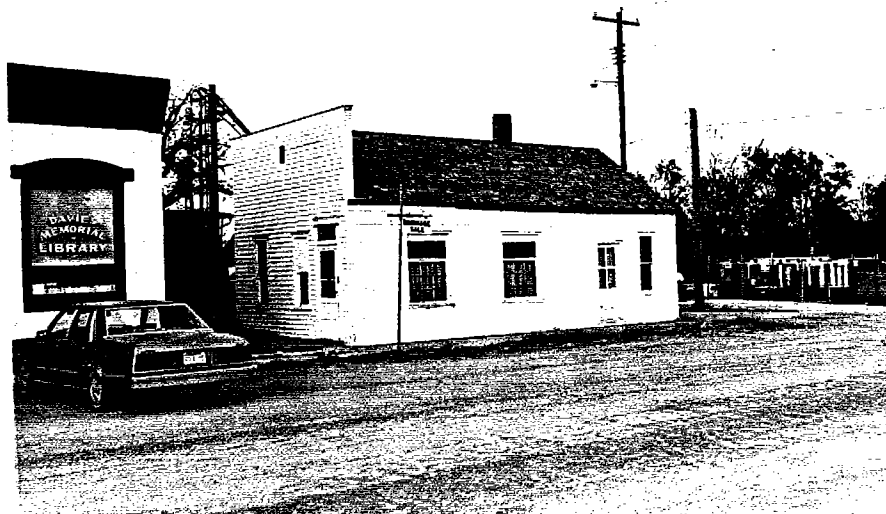


BD03-41: Commercial Building

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Retail

Location: N.S. Wilson St. between Thayer St. and Walnut St., Butte

Significance: Locally rare example of false front commercial building indicative of circa 1900 "Main St." streetscape.



BD08-47: Former Bank, ca. 1915

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Banking

Location: S.W.C. Main St. and West St., Spencer, Boyd County

Significance: Locally significant representative of early 20th century financial development of central Boyd County.



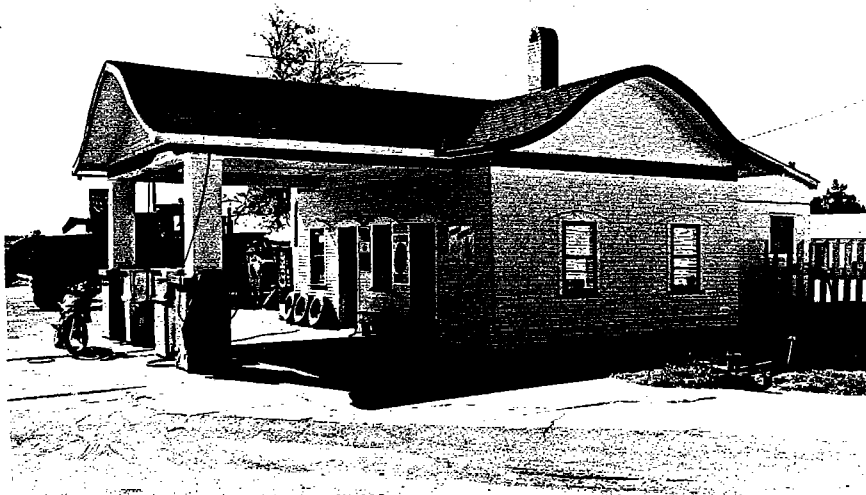
TRANSPORTATION

BD07-11: Gas Station, ca. 1925

Potential Historic Context(s): Transportation - Related Services

Location: N.W.C. First St. and Main St., Naper, Boyd County

Significance: Important for association to commercial services created by the spread of automobile transportation to Boyd County in the mid-1920s.



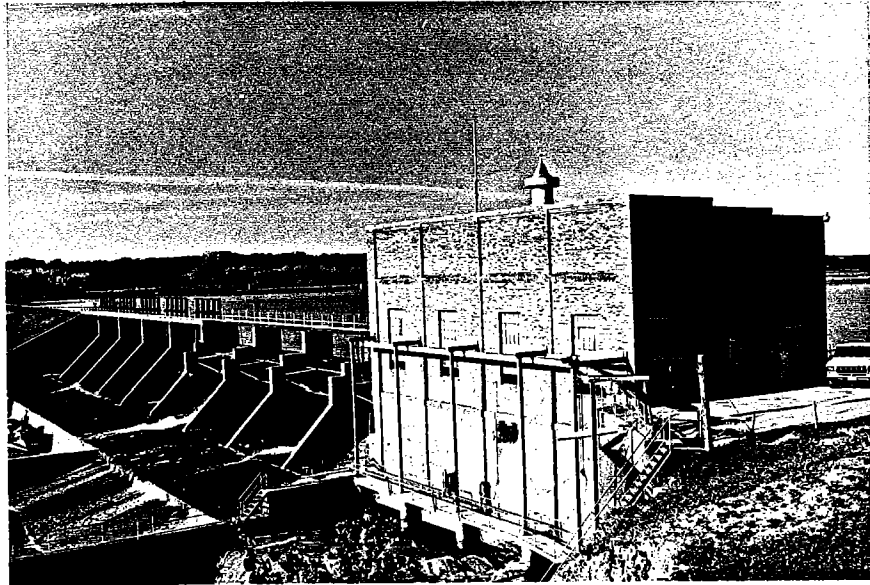
UTILITIES

BD00-143: Interstate Power Company Dam and Power House, 1927 and 1935

Potential Historic Context(s): Hydroelectric Generation Utilities

Location: Niobrara River, NW 1/4, Sec. 30, T.33 N., R.11 W.

Significance: Brick power house (1927) and reinforced concrete dam (1935) significant for generation and supply of hydroelectric power to Boyd County communities.



SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS

BD00-100: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1890

Potential Historic Context(s): Ethnic Groups, Settlement Systems

Location: Rural Boyd County, SW 1/4, Sec. 34, T.35 N., R.14 W.

Significance: Abandoned farmhouse typical of initial rural land settlement and with potential association to ethnic immigration.



BD00-144: William Dreher Farmstead, ca. 1885

Potential Historic Context(s): Ethnic Groups, Settlement Systems

Location: Niobrara River Valley, NE 1/4, Sec. 26, T.33 N., R.12 W.

Significance: Abandoned farmhouse associated with pre-county rural settlement of Niobrara River Valley.



BD00-165: John Schoman Farmstead, ca. 1900

Potential Historic Context(s): Ethnic Groups, Settlement Systems

Location: Rural Boyd County, SE 1/4, Sec. 26, T.35 N., R.12 W.

Significance: Selected for potential association with ethnic immigration and as a symbol of rural settlement in northern Boyd County.



BD00-200: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1890

Potential Historic Context(s): Ethnic Groups, Settlement Systems

Location: Rural Boyd County, SE 1/4, Sec. 23, T.33 N., R.10 W.

Significance: Selected for potential links with ethnic immigration. Abandoned farmstead with axial tree plantings framing view of gable-end facade.



BD02-29: House, ca. 1915

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems, Commerce

Location: W.S. Pleasant St. between Broad St. and Ponca St., Bristow, Boyd County

Significance: A residential property significant on a local basis for style-conscious design and retention of historic integrity.



BD03-26: Abandoned House, ca. 1900

Potential Historic Context(s): Ethnic Groups, Settlement Systems

Location: S.W.C. Highway 12 and Walnut St., Butte, Boyd County

Significance: Selected for potential links with ethnic immigration.



BD05-8: House, ca. 1900

Potential Historic Context(s): Ethnic Groups, Settlement Systems

Location: S.E.C. Second St. and Hoffman St., Lynch, Boyd County

Significance: Potentially significant as representative of initial town settlement and for possible links with ethnic immigration.



BD05-18: House, ca. 1900

Potential Historic Context(s): Ethnic Groups, Settlement Systems

Location: N.W.C. Ponca St. and Ninth St., Lynch, Boyd County

Significance: Selected for potential links with ethnic immigration and for retention of Victorian design motifs.



BD05-24: House, ca. 1900

Potential Historic Context(s): Ethnic Groups, Settlement Systems

Location: N.S. Ponca St. between 4th St. and 5th St., Lynch, Boyd County

Significance: Potentially significant for association to town settlement systems and for possible links to ethnic immigration.



BD08-28: House, ca. 1910

Potential Historic Context(s): Ethnic Groups, Settlement Systems

Location: W.S. West St. between Randall and Greg St., Spencer, Boyd County

Significance: Selected for possible association with locally significant personage and for potential to yield information relative to community history.



Topical Listing of Boyd County Historic Properties

The topical listing that follows is an enumeration of all historic properties documented during the Reconnaissance Survey which were judged as contributing to the historic character of Boyd County. This list was derived from a post-survey evaluation and contains both the 29 potential National Register Properties as well as 35 other historic resources within Boyd County considered worthy of preservation and future research. For detailed summaries of the 29 suggested National Register properties, please refer to the Preliminary Inventory preceding this listing.

The somewhat generous inclusion of properties in the inventories is a reaction to a fear of exclusiveness. If a property of which nothing is previously known can be included in the published inventory at a preliminary stage, that is, before further evaluation by NeSHPO staff, then it is

assured of at least a minimum level of documentation and will not be lost in the depths of the history card files.

RELIGION

Denominations/Sects/Faiths:

Lutheran:

BD02-18: Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bristow, 1920 (see Preliminary Inventory)

Methodist:

BD06-4: Monowi Methodist Church, 1907, abandoned, 1 contributing building

Presbyterian:

BD05-13: Lynch Presbyterian Church, 1906 (see Preliminary Inventory)

LEGAL SYSTEM

Law Enforcement:

BD03-28: Boyd County Jail Building, 1915 (see Preliminary Inventory)

EDUCATION

Schooling:

BD00-167: Abandoned School Dist. #77, 1902 (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD00-172: Abandoned School Dist. #61, 1900, 1 contributing building

BD03-54: SS. Peter and Paul Catholic School, 1909, 1 contributing building

BD04-1: Gross Public School, 1900, abandoned, 1 contributing building

Enrichment:

BD08-20: Frontier Acres Museum, 20 contributing buildings ca. 1890-1920

DIVERSION

Entertainment:

BD00-68: White Horse Ranch, 1938-1963 (see Preliminary Inventory)

HEALTH CARE

Physical:

BD05-36: Sacred Heart Hospital, Lynch (see Preliminary Inventory)

AGRICULTURE

General Farming:

BD00-77: Farmstead, ca. 1891 (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD00-142: Martin Langan Farmstead (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD00-175: Benjamin Gross Farmstead (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD00-209: Martin Johnson Farmstead (see Preliminary Inventory)

Northeastern Livestock and Wild Hay:

BD00-219: Billy Short Farmstead, ca. 1892 (see Preliminary Inventory)

Northeastern Intensive Livestock Production:

BD00-122: Farmstead, ca. 1900 and 1920 (see Preliminary Inventory)

COMMERCE

Grain Elevators:

BD01-1: Anoka Grain Company, 1903 (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD01-2: Anoka Grain Elevator and Office (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD06-2: Monowi Elevator Office, 1902 (see Preliminary Inventory)

Retail:

BD01-4: Grocery Store, Anoka, ca. 1905, 1 contributing building

BD02-3: Bristow Produce, ca. 1900, 1 contributing building

BD02-4: Bristow Livery Barn, ca. 1910, 1 contributing building

BD02-8: False Front Commercial Building, 1 contributing building

BD03-34: Anoka and Butte Lumber Co., ca. 1918, 1 contributing building

BD03-39: False Front Commercial Building, 1 contributing building

BD03-41: Commercial Building (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD04-2: False Front Commercial Building, 1 contributing building

BD05-32: Brick Commercial Building, 1 contributing building

BD06-3: False Front Commercial Building, 1 contributing building

Banking:

BD08-47: Former Bank, Spencer (see Preliminary Inventory)

TRANSPORTATION

Related Services:

BD02-5: Gas Station and Garage, ca. 1925, 2 contributing buildings

BD07-11: Gas Station, Naper (see Preliminary Inventory)

UTILITIES

Electricity:

BD00-143: Dam and Power House (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD08-19: Spencer Power Plant, ca. 1911, 1 contributing building

SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS

Clustering: Rural

BD00-100: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1890 (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD00-141: Farmstead, ca. 1910, 5 contributing buildings

BD00-144: William Dreher Farmstead (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD00-164: Farmstead, ca. 1910, 10 contributing features

BD00-165: John Schoman Farmstead (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD00-174: Abandoned Farmhouse, ca. 1891, 6 contributing buildings

BD00-184: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1895, 3 contributing buildings

BD00-200: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1890 (see Preliminary Inventory)

Clustering: Town

BD02-29: House, ca. 1915 (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD03-12: House, ca. 1900, 2 contributing buildings

BD03-24: House, ca. 1900, 1 contributing building

BD03-26: Abandoned House, ca. 1900 (see Preliminary Building)

BD05-1: John Lynch House, ca. 1892, 2 contributing buildings

BD05-8: House, ca. 1900 (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD05-17: Abandoned House, ca. 1892, 1 contributing building

BD05-18: House, ca. 1900 (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD05-24: House, ca. 1900 (see Preliminary Inventory)

BD05-27: House, ca. 1915, 2 contributing buildings
 BD08-8: House, ca. 1900, 1 contributing building
 BD08-10: House, ca. 1900, 1 contributing building
 BD08-11: House, ca. 1895, 2 contributing buildings
 BD08-21: House, ca. 1900, 1 contributing building
 BD08-22: House, ca. 1910, 1 contributing building
 BD08-25: House, ca. 1910, 1 contributing building
 BD08-26: House, ca. 1910, 2 contributing buildings
 BD08-28: House, ca. 1910 (see Preliminary Inventory)
 BD08-30: House, ca. 1910, 2 contributing buildings
 BD08-33: House, ca. 1900, 1 contributing building
 BD08-46: House, ca. 1910, 1 contributing building

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

Throughout the duration of the Boyd County survey, random observations were recorded in an effort to later construct recommendations for future work. The general impressions recorded by the survey team were then combined with a post-survey analysis of documented historic properties. The resulting recommendations were conceptualized by Save America's Heritage to fit the "tools" of preservation and documentation available to the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office. These tools consist of Multiple Property, Historic District, and individual nominations to the NRHP as well as intensive survey relating to Historic Context Reports.

The following suggestions are separated into two categories and are presented without reference to priority. The two categories are: 1) NeSHPO National Register Follow-Up, and 2) Research Studies.

National Register Recommendations

The first of the two categories, the NeSHPO National Register Follow-Up, is a basic summary of the potential National Register of Historic Places listing activities associated with the Boyd County survey.

Save America's Heritage strongly suggests the drafting of nominations for all properties judged by NeSHPO staff as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The drafting of these nominations may occur in two basic forms. First, as Multiple Property nominations for all buildings which relate to Historic Contexts developed by the NeSHPO, or as individual nominations of the 29 properties listed in the Preliminary Inventory of Boyd County historic buildings. The properties which appear in the Preliminary Inventory are those which appear potentially eligible for the National Register and should be acted upon immediately following the submittal of this report.

Research Studies

The second category of recommendations for future field activity within the study area come under the heading of Research Studies. The implication of this title suggests that further investigation into the following hypotheses may yield information relevant to the context of Nebraska historic architecture. If further research within the boundaries of Boyd County finds these hypotheses valid, then it is Save America's Heritage recommendation that all subsequent historic building surveys initiated by the State Historic Preservation Office continue the investigation of the following research topics.

A. German-Russian Immigration in Central and Eastern Boyd County

Save America's Heritage recommends an intensive survey of extant German-Russian properties in the central and eastern portions of Boyd County. The area suggested at this time contains all of Bush, Lynch, Morton, and Ware Townships and portions of Butte and Bristow Townships (see Figure 7).

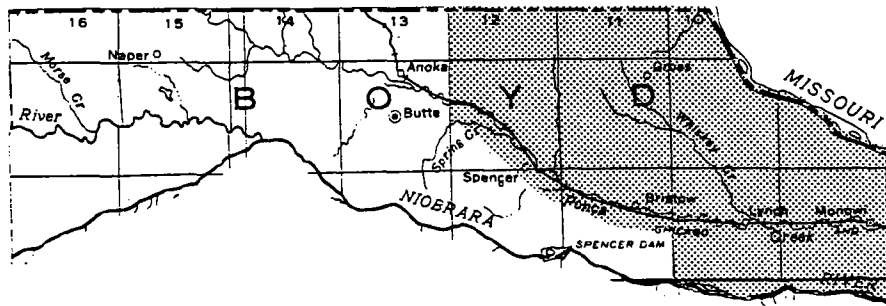


Fig. 7. Geographic area of potential German-Russian influence.

This geographic area includes the previously researched German-Russian Sunshine Bottoms but evidence of further inland penetration to the Ponca Creek Valley from Monowi to Anoka suggests potential intensive survey of extant German-Russian properties.

B. Agricultural Contexts of Boyd County

Throughout the duration of the Boyd County survey, random observations were recorded in an effort to later construct recommendations for Historic Context developments. The general notions recorded by the survey team were derived by combining the NeSHPO Topical Listing of Historic Contexts with on-site observations of Boyd County agricultural practices. Somewhat unexpectedly, Boyd County was not perceived as a purely cattle-producing county with vast expanses of open grazing land. Due to the presence of three major east-west river valleys, the county is compacted into a series of bluffs and valleys and is not conducive to large open grazing as, for example, its southern neighbor, Holt County. Despite the obvious differences in size (2,412 to 535 square miles), Boyd County was expected to exhibit a similar agricultural system as Holt County. To the extent that they both produce cattle this is true; however, the geographical rise and fall of the easterly flowing rivers gives Boyd County a much more confined sense of space than the treeless expanses of Holt County.

Illustrating this is the fact that 75% of Holt County is used as rangeland while only 46.7% of Boyd County is used for the same purpose.

Despite the comparative weakness of Boyd County to Holt County in terms of **intensive** production, the potential still exists for the nomination of properties through the development of two agriculturally-related Historic Contexts. These are: 1) Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production, and 2) Northeastern Livestock, Wild Hay and Cash Grain Area.

APPENDIX 1

**A RESEARCH DESIGN
FOR THE
HISTORIC BUILDINGS SURVEY
OF
BOYD COUNTY**

RECONNAISSANCE RESEARCH DESIGN

1. Introduction

It is the intention of this paper to contribute two important functions towards the execution of the Reconnaissance Survey of Boyd County. First, it will provide Save America's Heritage (SAVE) survey team with the guidelines by which the survey will be performed and secondly, it establishes a means of communicating these guidelines to NeSHPO project managers for critique and refinement.

The format of this Research Design will be to discuss first the "non-mechanical" aspects of the survey, followed by a discussion of the tasks considered more "mechanical" in nature. The primary purpose of the "mechanical" discussion is to define the documentation process used in the recording of historic properties while the "non-mechanical" discussion will consist of the survey objectives and limitations.

2. Objectives Of Reconnaissance Survey

After completing a preliminary outline of the objectives associated with a reconnaissance survey, it became apparent that there was an obvious division between those objectives which were qualitative in nature and those that were quantitative. This division has organized the reconnaissance objectives into the two listings that follow.

Qualitative Objectives:

The most obvious objective of a reconnaissance-level survey is the concept of providing a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant in a particular geographic area. Beyond this are several other very important objectives which may be used to enhance both the importance of the information generated by the reconnaissance-level survey and the importance of the survey itself. First among these additional objectives is the concept of establishing the setting of Nebraska's multi-contextual historic architecture. Each historic building survey performed will generate information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background which future survey information can be evaluated with.

Secondly, it is the objective of the historic building survey to identify specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the above-mentioned multi-context setting. Further qualitative objectives include: the possible identification of specific building types, the identification of construction methodologies which may relate to or are unique to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture, the identification of sites worthy of National Register listing, and the expansion of knowledge relative to a specific geographic area within the state context such as ethnic settlement, building technologies and architectural image.

Outline of Qualitative Objectives:

- A. To create a community awareness and interest in Historic Preservation and the National Register of Historic Places.
- B. The documentation of several significant sites which will eventually be placed on the NRHP as individual, thematic, or district nominations.
- C. To document site information concerning building typologies in a format consistent with the NeSHPO Topical Listing, which can be used as an organizing element in the Final Report and Preliminary Inventory.
- D. To record any potential links between a particular ethnic settlement and its associated architectural images within the survey area.
- E. To complete a comprehensive, conscientious survey which will generate information useful to the planning process and future surveys.
- F. The collation of survey data for planning intensive survey and relating of information into the contextual frameworks.
- G. To promote historic preservation through the identification of the historic properties located within the county.
- H. To record information useful to the local planning decisions of the county when assessing projects affecting historic structures.
- I. To identify properties whose owners may be eligible for various kinds of federal, state, and local assistance in the event the owner

pursues the preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation of their historic building(s).

Quantitative Objectives:

- A. The recording of an estimated 325 sites in Boyd County at the completion of the survey.
- B. The covering of approximately 224,000 acres (350 sq. miles) in Boyd County. In addition, all eight towns in Boyd County will be surveyed.
- C. Identification of at least 15 sites per context worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
- D. Identification of at least one possible Thematic or Multiple Resource nomination worthy of National Register pursuit.
- E. Evaluating by the following hierarchy those sites for a) high potential for significance, b) suspicious buildings--those buildings that may be of significance, c) no potential in comparison to others, d) those sites not likely to yield any information.

3. Methods Of Reconnaissance Survey

The "mechanical" aspect of reconnaissance historic building surveys will focus primarily upon the documentation process and corresponding methods used in the recording of historical resources. The recording technique is considered of prime importance and it is the attitude of Save America's Heritage to strive for a conscientious effort and accurate method while recording historic resources. To best communicate our intentions, the following discussion on survey methods has been organized into three groups. These are 1) pre-field research, 2) pre-field activities, and 3) field activities.

Pre-Field Research:

Following the selection of the survey's geographic boundaries by the NeSHPO, the pre-field research is begun and focuses primarily on the performance of archival research. The main purpose of archival research is to identify the nature of the survey area's settlement by culture,

geographic location, and time frame. In addition, the archival research should attempt to identify potential themes of architectural, cultural, and historical significance within the survey area, should they exist. While it is acknowledged that the extent and availability of research information varies according to the events and background of the area, the following references will be investigated prior to the reconnaissance survey: locally written county histories, county histories written within a statewide history, existing survey data in the NeSHPO site files including survey forms, the files of the NSHS photographic collections, centennial publications on community and church histories, archival maps and atlases, newspaper articles concerning a community's built environment, and literature published by local or county historical groups. The majority of these types of publications can be found in the libraries of state and county historical societies. A bibliography of all sources referenced should be maintained and, along with photocopied information, added to the site files. These general data files are organized according to specific counties, local communities, and individual sites. The files are used prior to reconnaissance survey to familiarize the surveyors with the survey area and are consulted again in the field during the survey. Added to the general files are all forms of public correspondence received up to the point the survey is begun.

Due to the absence of an existing Historic Overview report, extensive preparation becomes necessary to satisfactorily develop the concepts of the report. The content of the Historic Overview is considered a prime source of pre-survey information. Therefore, the following is an outline of the methodology to be employed by SAVE's personnel during the composition of the county Historic Overview.

Each Historic Overview report will identify important patterns, events, persons, or cultural values pertaining to the county. It is anticipated that the information within the Historic Overview will aid in the identification of property types associated with each individual theme. In the preparation of the Historic Overview, the following will be considered:

- A. Trends in area settlement and development.
- B. Aesthetic and artistic values embodied in architecture, construction technology, or craftsmanship.
- C. Research values or problems relevant to the county, social and physical sciences and humanities, and cultural interests of local communities.
- D. Intangible cultural values of ethnic groups and native American people.

Pre-Field Activities:

The topic of pre-field activities are considered separate from pre-field research on the basis of their more publicly extroverted nature. Save America's Heritage will begin the pre-field activities with the distribution of notices announcing the survey and its intentions to all the general public. This will be done by placing general notices in established commercial and non-commercial facilities of the communities, such as the U.S. Post Office, grocery stores, donut shops, etc. Reinforcing this is the dispersal of press releases to all active newspapers existing in the county. The intent of the release is to inform the public of the survey programs and to solicit their input in the identification of historic resources. In addition to this, communication will be established with the local historians and historical societies detailing our intent and welcoming their possible input. Included in this communication will be information concerning the thematic topics and the time frame of the survey. The final task of pre-field activity will be the precautionary attempts to eliminate public suspicion. The justifiable suspicion aroused by survey activities will potentially be eliminated through the listing of survey vehicles and personnel with local police departments and county sheriff patrols. (For examples of typical communications, see Appendix D.)

Field Activities—General:

The first step prior to embarking on the survey would be the assemblage of the necessary documents used during the recording of

identified sites. This includes town plat maps, USGS 7 1/2 minute topographical maps, county road maps, site files, and the preparation of the Historic Overview. The recording of a county's significant sites would be conducted during the reconnaissance survey and would consist of identifying structures, mapping locations, architectural descriptions, and photographic documentation. Any supplemental field notes derived from observations or public communications will also be added.

The reconnaissance photography would consist of two photographs per site from opposite 45 degree angles using a wide angle perspective correcting lens. In certain cases, additional photographs of the more significant structures will be recorded showing context, detailing, or construction. Brief descriptions of each site will be recorded to define basic characteristics of the site and aid in map location during the post-survey cataloging. For domestic sites, the supratypological vocabulary developed by The Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee will be used in the description process. Photographic field notes will also be kept concerning the aspect of the image, exposure number, and corresponding roll number. In addition to the recording of the information listed above, further research will be conducted on those sites which are considered to have greater significance.

A primary concept in the documentation of historic buildings is the recognition that different building types may require different recording techniques. Therefore, it is necessary for the surveyor to define the specific types of information most relevant to the typology of the property he is documenting.

4. Reconnaissance Survey Biases

Integrity:

To be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, a property must possess integrity. Integrity is the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's historic period. If a property retains the physical characteristics it possessed in the past then it has the capacity to convey association with historical patterns or persons,

architectural design, or information about a culture or people. Consequently, the determination of integrity is considered a most important field activity.

For reconnaissance-level documentation, two very basic questions must first be asked. These are:

1. Is the building at least 50 years old?
2. Does it retain its integrity?

The answer to question #1 is usually quite objective; however, the determination of integrity requires some discussion.

It must first be recognized that the degree of integrity exhibited by historic buildings can vary greatly. The principal investigator must first ask, "Does this property reflect its historic character or has it been altered by the application of contemporary building materials and technologies?" In most instances, the house is the first building scrutinized, especially in the case of town surveys where they represent the majority of extant buildings. However, the importance of "house integrity" is diminished when dealing with buildings located in rural settings. For most cases in Nebraska, this means a farmstead. With the added significance of agricultural-related buildings (such as hay, horse and livestock barns, granaries, corn cribs, and elevators), a limited amount of alteration to the house should not prevent the site from being documented. In the case where a farmstead contains a large historic representation of farm buildings with a severely altered house, the site will be documented as a farmstead with a non-contributing house. A final case may exist where a single, highly significant, farm-related building is located within an otherwise altered farmstead. In this event, Save America's Heritage will document the individual building designating a site number solely to the specific building, structure, or object.

Integrity also appears to play an important role in the field documentation of commercial buildings. Traditionally, buildings used for commerce have been adaptively reused by subsequent generations. These buildings are positioned along a primary local thoroughfare or even a regionally important highway, thus lending appeal to present-day retailers seeking new locations. Often the buildings are physically altered to

accommodate new functions and therefore suffer a loss of integrity. With this in mind, only those buildings exhibiting the visual characteristics of their historic period will be documented.

In summary, the determination of integrity will be based upon the historic retention of the following physical characteristics.

- Materials: Does the building retain the original materials from its period of historic importance?
- Location: Is the building placed in its original location or has it been moved?
- Design: Does the building reflect the design aesthetics of its historic period?
- Setting: Does the building reflect a historic "sense of place"?
Does the historic image and feel still exist?
- Function: Does the building represent its historic use?

Characteristics of Rural Integrity:

With the concept of Rural Historic Districts added to the National Register process, the principal investigator is forced to develop new visual sensitivities which are sympathetic to the qualities of rural settings. New methods of survey and research must be added to our understanding of both the built and natural environment and the historic relationship between them.

With this in mind, Save America's Heritage will attempt, without contractual obligation, to observe the following characteristics of potential significance to rural historic enclaves.

- The condition and presence of features, natural and built, which relate to a historic period of importance.
- The ability of a rural environment to reflect a sense of a past time or place.
- Potential unifying factors which may link rural properties together.
- The potential significance of historic contexts not preliminarily identified as important to the study area.
- The overall patterns of landscape spatial organization (landforms, natural features, material components).

- Land-use categories and activities (farming, ranching, recreation).
- Response to natural features (landform affect on material components).
- Boundaries (cultural, political, or natural).
- Cluster arrangements (position of material elements within landscape setting).
- Ecological context (Missouri River Valley).
- Integrity: Loss of natural features that were historically integral to the rural setting and intrusion of non-contributing features.
- The presence of sociocultural institutions with association to buildings within the district (granges, township halls).

5. Anticipated Property Types

Save America's Heritage anticipates the identification of historic properties in each of the following nine categories.

- ECCLESIASTICAL: Churches, church schools, parsonages, and convents
- COMMERCIAL: Banks, liverys, agricultural dealers, hotels, auto dealers, general stores, newspapers, cafes, and grocery stores
- TOWN-RESIDENTIAL: Single family dwellings, high-rise apartment blocks
- RURAL-RESIDENTIAL: Farm houses
- INDUSTRIAL: Utility buildings (electrical, water, telephone) and private manufacturing warehouses
- ENGINEERING: Rail bridges, highway bridges, dams, and tunnels
- AGRICULTURAL: Cattle barns, horse barns, hog barns, hog fences, cattle fences, cellars, cob houses, orchards, windmills, windbreaks, pump systems, cattle loafing sheds, hog loafing sheds, farrowing houses, corn cribs, wash houses, summer kitchens, chicken houses, brooder houses, machine shops, implement sheds, granaries, silos, elevators, and stock tank systems

- TRANSPORTATION: Depots, garages, gas stations, auto dealerships, and roundhouses
- PUBLIC BUILDINGS: Elementary and high schools, post offices, libraries, park structures, courthouses, hospitals, and township halls

6. Evaluation Process and Criteria

Process Of Evaluation:

Two primary reasons exist for the evaluation of the resources documented by the Historic Buildings survey. The first is the identification of properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, and the second is the designation of those properties to be preserved by local planning processes. The National Register criterion A, B, C, and D as translated by the Historic Context Reports shall be the basis for evaluation.

The Preliminary Inventory is the primary reference list of all properties within Boyd County that are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Therefore, its primary purpose is to define the entire "pool" of historic resources which appear potentially eligible for listing.

The Preliminary Inventory also fulfills additional roles which include its use as a guide for suggesting future work in the study area and the identification of building types which are no longer extant or never existed within the study area. The analysis of the inventoried data may also provide the NeSHPO with answers to the following questions:

1. What percentage of the total number of sites surveyed were worthy of intensive survey on the basis of their association to an identified historic theme or to a preliminarily identified Historic Context?
2. What percentage of the total number of sites surveyed were worthy of intensive survey as non-historic context sites?
3. What percentage of those sites **noted during the field survey** as potentially significant were actually found to be significant for:

- a. Historic context sites?
- b. Non-historic context sites?

Save America's Heritage originally viewed the assembling of the Preliminary Inventory as a two-step process consisting of survey and review. However, as outlined below, a refined methodology has evolved from previous survey experience which now involves several levels of evaluation. What has emerged is a more in-depth compilation of potential NRHP sites using a variety of historical and contemporary resources.

Initial base list of potentially eligible properties derived from review of reconnaissance survey documentation.

Review of contact sheets and site descriptions performed to add or delete base-list properties.

Land atlas research documenting historic chain of ownership (1891, 1911, 19250 for rural base-list properties.

Deed, mortgage, and mechanic's lien research performed on selected sites to develop list of original owners and historic typologies.

Review all published county, church, and centennial histories, with particular emphasis on historic building citations of base-list properties.

Contact local historical societies for input on histories of base-list properties.

Second base-list review with application of criterion to derive final lists of sites which:

- a) are strongly recommended for NRHP listing, and

- b) may not be strongly recommended for listing but contribute to the character of the historic built environment.

Criteria For Evaluation:

If the ultimate goal of the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey is indeed the identification of properties worthy of National Register listing, then the definitions and criteria established by the NRHP become the primary concepts by which the significance of a historic property is evaluated.

The National Register defines a historic property as a district, site, building, structure, or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archeology, and culture. A historic context is a broad pattern of historical development in a community or its region, that may be represented by historic resources. The use of historic contexts provides a mechanism for translating the broad National Register criteria into locally meaningful terms. For example, the National Register criteria allow any property that is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past to be regarded as eligible for listing, but it is the historic contexts of the area that define who such people were (p. 55, Nat. Reg. Bulletin, No. 24, V. 5, Dept. of the Interior). With this in mind, the National Register criteria translated into local meaning by the Historic Context Reports are as follows:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**ETHNIC SUMMARY OF BOYD COUNTY, NEBRASKA
IN 1890, 1900, AND 1910**

<u>Nativity</u>	<u># No.</u>	<u>Total Foreign-Born Population</u>	<u>% of Foreign-Born Population</u>	<u>Total County Population</u>	<u>% of Total County Population</u>
<u>1890</u>					
1. Russian	67	216	31.0	695	9.6
2. Bohemian	45	216	20.8	695	6.5
3. German	35	216	16.2	695	5.0
4. Swedish	31	216	14.4	695	4.5
<u>1900</u>					
1. Russian	470	1,554	30.2	7,332	6.4
2. German	371	1,554	23.9	7,332	5.1
3. Bohemian	222	1,554	14.3	7,332	3.0
4. Swedish	194	1,554	12.5	7,332	2.7
<u>1910</u>					
1. German	393	1,450	27.1	8,826	4.5
2. Swedish	287	1,450	19.8	8,826	3.3
3. Austrian	275	1,450	19.0	8,826	3.1
4. Russian	263	1,450	18.1	8,826	3.0

APPENDIX 2

Boyd County Supratype Master List

The listing of residential properties surveyed in Boyd County utilized the supratype method of description. As illustrated below, this list indicates a total of 70 core supratypes representing the 256 total residential properties documented within the county.

Each supratype is listed according to its six core descriptors which are found at the headings of each column. The core supratype number is found in the first column followed by the descriptors which are, respectively: core shape (SH), horizontal width in units (SZ), wall height in stories (HT), roof type (RF), orientation (OR), and entry location (DR). The total number of the supratype is found in the next column (#), followed by the percentage of that type within Boyd County (% BD).

<u>S.Type</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>SZ#</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>RF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>DR</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>% BD</u>
S.1	I	.5	1.0	G	N	FE	2	.78
S.2	I	1.5	1.5	G	N	FE	1	.39
S.3	I	1.5	2.0	H	N	FE	1	.39
S.4	I	2.0	2.0	H	N	FE	1	.39
S.5	L	.5	1.0	G	La	FE	2	.78
S.6	L	.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.78
S.7	L	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	FE	5	2.00
S.8	L	1.0	2.0	H	Lo	FE	1	.39
S.9	L	1.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.78
S.10	L	1.5	1.5	G	Lo	Fe	2	.78
S.11	R	.5	1.0	F	Lo	FE	1	.39
S.12	R	.5	1.0	G	La	FE	15	5.90
S.13	R	.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	9	3.50
S.14	R	.5	1.0	H	Lo	SE	1	.78
S.15	R	.5	1.5	G	La	FE	1	.78
S.16	R	.5	1.5	G	Lo	FE	4	1.60
S.17	R	1.0	1.0	G	La	FE	8	3.10
S.18	R	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	FE	11	4.30
S.19	R	1.0	1.0	GJ	La	FE	1	.39
S.20	R	1.0	1.0	H	La	FE	1	.39
S.21	R	1.0	1.5	G	La	FE	7	2.70
S.22	R	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	FE	17	6.60
S.23	R	1.0	2.0	HG	Lo	FE	1	.39
S.24	R	1.5	1.0	G	La	FE	9	3.50
S.25	R	1.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	18	7.00

<u>S.Type</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>SZ#</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>RF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>DR</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>% BD</u>
S.26	R	1.5	1.0	H	La	FE	4	1.60
S.27	R	1.5	1.0	H	Lo	FE	7	2.70
S.28	R	1.5	1.5	G	La	FE	5	2.00
S.29	R	1.5	1.5	G	Lo	FE	7	2.70
S.30	R	1.5	1.5	GG	La	SE	1	.39
S.31	R	1.5	1.5	GG	Lo	FE	2	.78
S.32	R	1.5	1.5	GJ	Lo	FE	2	.78
S.33	R	1.5	1.5	GT	La	FE	1	.39
S.34	R	1.5	1.5	H	La	FE	1	.39
S.35	R	1.5	2.0	G	La	FE	1	.39
S.36	R	1.5	2.0	G	Lo	FE	4	1.60
S.37	R	1.5	2.0	HT	Lo	FE	1	.39
S.38	R	2.0	1.0	G	La	FE	1	.39
S.39	R	2.0	1.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.78
S.40	R	2.0	1.5	G	La	FE	2	.78
S.41	R	2.0	1.5	G	Lo	FE	3	1.20
S.42	R	2.0	2.0	H	La	FE	1	.39
S.43	R	2.0	2.0	H	Lo	FE	4	1.60
S.44	R	2.5	1.0	G	La	FE	2	.78
S.45	S	1.0	1.0	HT	N	FE	2	.78
S.46	S	1.5	1.0	G+H	Lo	FE	1	.39
S.47	S	1.5	1.0	GG	N	FE	1	.39
S.48	S	1.5	1.0	H	N	FE	9	3.50
S.49	S	1.5	1.0	HT	N	FE	6	2.40
S.50	S	1.5	1.5	G	N	FE	1	.39
S.51	S	1.5	1.5	H	N	FE	1	.39
S.52	S	2.0	1.0	GX	N	FE	1	.39
S.53	S	2.0	1.0	H	N	FE	1	.39
S.54	S	2.0	1.0	HT	N	FE	4	1.60
S.55	S	2.0	1.5	GX	La	FE	1	.39
S.56	S	2.0	1.5	HT	N	FE	1	.39
S.57	S	2.0	2.0	H	N	FE	7	2.70
S.58	S	2.0	2.0	HT	N	FE	5	2.00
S.59	S	2.5	2.0	HP	N	FE	1	.39
S.60	T	.5	1.0	G	La	FE	2	.78
S.61	T	.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	6	2.40
S.62	T	.5	1.5	G	La	FE	3	1.20
S.63	T	.5	2.0	G	Lo	FE	1	.39
S.64	T	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	FE	3	1.20
S.65	T	1.0	1.0	HT+G	N	FE	1	.39
S.66	T	1.0	1.5	G	La	FE	13	5.10
S.67	T	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	FE	5	2.00
S.68	T	1.0	2.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.78
S.69	T	1.5	1.5	G	Lo	SE	3	1.20
S.70	T	1.5	2.0	G	La	FE	1	.39

APPENDIX 3

Index of Abbreviations

The following index attempts to explain the abbreviations used by the survey team while recording historic buildings in the eight-county area of the Northeast Nebraska survey project. These abbreviations were developed as a means of expediting the survey recording process. The need for abbreviations was especially necessary in the recording of rural-based historic properties. In these cases, every effort was made to note each building, structure, and object which contributed to the historic character of the property. Many of the abbreviations were developed by the NeSHPO during their former surveys of historic buildings throughout Nebraska. The remaining group of abbreviations were developed by Save America's Heritage with the approval of the NeSHPO. It should be mentioned that these abbreviations were used extensively and were transferred from field notes to the history cards with the approval of the NeSHPO.

Fr.	= Frame	Addn.	= Addition
Br.	= Brick	Cent.	= Central
Conc. blk.	= Concrete block	Enc.	= Enclosed
Frmhse.	= Farmhouse	Att.	= Attached
Frmstd.	= Farmstead	Perpend.	= Perpendicular
Hse.	= House	Symm.	= Symmetrical
S.K.	= Summer kitchen	Lg.	= Large
Ckn. hse.	= Chicken house	G.W.D.	= Gable wall dormer
Gar.	= Garage	E.G.W.D.	= Entry gable wall dormer
Gran.	= Granary	Gab.	= Gable
Carr. barn	= Carriage barn	Drmr.	= Dormer
D.T. gran.	= Drive-thru granary	Outbldg.	= Outbuilding
D.T. crib	= Drive-thru crib	Aban.	= Abandoned
L.S.	= Loafing shed	Det.	= Deteriorated

Hd. hse. = Head house
W.W. fence = Woven wire fence
Bd. fence = Board fence
Fdn. = Foundation
Rf. = Roof
Chim. = Chimney

N.C. = Non-contributing
P.O. = Present owner
Orig. = Original
Cem. = Cemetery
Orn. = Ornamental

